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18 February 1982

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

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KAMPUCHEA

CHEA SIM THANKS SRV'S HOANG QUOC VIET

BK150715 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 14 Jan 82

[Text] Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD] Council, recently sent a message thanking Comrade Hoang Quoc Viet, chairman of the VFF Central Committee Presidium, for his warm greetings on the occasion of the third anniversary of the 7 January national independence day. The message reads:

On behalf of the KUFNCD Council we would like to express our deep and fraternal gratitude to the VFF Central Committee Presidium with you as chairman and to the fraternal Vietnamese people for their warm congratulations and greetings on the occasion of the Third KUFNCD Congress [occasion as heard].

On this occasion, we would like to express our most sincere thanks to the Vietnamese party, front and people for their fraternal moral and material support and assistance, even to the sacrificing of their flesh and blood in order to rescue the Kampuchean people from the barbarous genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan regime--the lackeys of the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists. We are grateful for their continued assistance in protecting the Kampuchean people throughout the country so they can increase production and return to a normal life.

May the comrade state leaders, the armed forces and the Vietnamese people, as well as you, beloved comrade, enjoy the best of health and score more and greater victories in fulfilling their noble duties in defending and building the nation while progressing toward socialism.

CSO: 4212/9

KAMPUCHEA

PEN NAVOUTH SENDS MESSAGE TO NGUYEN THI BINH

BK191326 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 18 Jan 82

[Text] Recently Comrade Nguyen Thi Binh, minister of education of the SRV, sent a greetings message to Comrade Pen Navouth to congratulate him on the third anniversary of national day. To thank Nguyen Thi Binh, Pen Navouth sent a message to her which reads:

I am most elated and satisfied at the greetings and best wishes you sent me on the occasion of the third anniversary of the 7 January independence day. For these precious feelings and wishes, on behalf of the Education Ministry and in my own name, I would like to express sincere thanks and gratitude to you and, through you, to the heroic people, heroic army, party and government of Vietnam for their most powerful support given to our country. We, the Kampuchean people, would like to note in our minds that the 7 January national independence day is the rebirth of the Kampuchean people, a stage in which Kampuchea was freed from a regime of slavery and advanced toward a correct and pure regime: socialism. It is the source of all kinds of development, particularly in the educational sector. This great victory is attributable to the contribution of the heroic people, heroic army, party and government of fraternal Vietnam in the spirit of proletarian internationalism. Moreover, this great victory clearly shows the great strength of the Kampuchea-Vietnam militant solidarity which is the determining factor working for stability in Indochina and Southeast Asia as a whole.

The Kampuchean people, including the teachers, students and pupils, have pledged to seek by all means to preserve, strengthen and expand the Kampuchea-Vietnam bonds of solidarity.

CSO: 4212/9

BATTLE REPORTS

Attack in Kompong Thom

BK060643 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] On 26 December at 2100 our special unit attacked a Vietnamese battalion position at Krapeu Village, Tuol Kroul Commune, Kompong Svay District, Kompong Thom Province, central region battlefield.

We killed 12 Vietnamese enemies and wounded 7 others for a total of 19 casualties. We destroyed an RPD, a B-40 and 3 AK's.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people of Kompong Svay District, Kompong Thom Province.

Guerrillas Destroy SRV Helicopter

BK060641 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 4 Jan 82

[Text] On 28 December our army and guerrillas fired artillery shells at a helicopter of the Vietnamese enemy which landed at (Kaoh Tai Van) near the Metoek River on the western Leach battlefield. This helicopter was set on fire and damaged.

Long live our valiant and courageous army, guerrillas and people of the western Leach battlefield.

Vietnamese Official Killed in Ambush

BK080700 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 6 Jan 82

[Text] On 19 December our army and guerrillas successfully ambushed a Vietnamese provincial official's car in Kompong Cham, Kompong Cham battlefield, and destroyed this car. The Vietnamese provincial official who was in this car was killed.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people on the Kompong Cham battlefield.

Platoon Ambushed, Materiel Seized

BK080704 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 6 Jan 82

[Text] On 3 January our army and guerrillas successfully ambushed a Vietnamese platoon near the Tonle Sap Lake, north of Prey Praoh, Kompong Svay District, Kompong Thom Province. We killed 5 Vietnamese enemies and wounded 6 others, for a total of 11 casualties. Among those killed was a Vietnamese platoon commander.

We seized a B-40, an RPD, an AK, 4 B-40 rockets, 100 rounds of AK ammunition and a quantity of materiel.

The Vietnamese survivors retreated back.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people on the Kompong Thom battlefield.

December Action in Western Leach

BK100700 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] Last December our comrades in arms on the western Leach battlefield killed 245 Vietnamese enemy aggressors and wounded 194 others for a total of 439 casualties. Among those killed was a platoon commander.

Our combatants destroyed a helicopter, a tractor, 2 B-40's, 13 AK's, 88 trenches, 30 barracks and a quantity of materiel.

Our comrades in arms seized 2 AK's, 6 B-40 rockets, 700 rounds of AK ammunition, 6 bags of goods and a quantity of materiel.

Our comrades in arms also smashed and liberated a Vietnamese independent battalion position.

Concerning the production of primitive weapons, our comrades in arms made and planted 812,000 new spikes, dug 250 new punji pitfalls and set up 200 new automatic bows.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people on the western Leach battlefield.

Samlot Zone December Report

BK100900 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] Last December our comrades in arms on the Samlot battlefield, Battambang Province, killed 330 Vietnamese enemy aggressors and wounded 422 others for a total of 752 casualties.

They destroyed a 60-mm mortar, a B-40, a Goryunov, 8 AK's, 2 trucks, a command post, 13 military barracks, 2 trenches and a quantity of materiel. They cut three portions of the road between Sre Pol Village and O Reang Khen for a total of 18 meters.

Concerning the production of primitive weapons, our comrades in arms made and planted 200,000 new spikes, dug 120 new punji pitfalls and set up 160 new automatic bows.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people on the Samlot battlefield.

Sisophon-Bavel December Report

BK130323 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Last December our comrades in arms on the Sisophon-South of Route 5-Mongkolborei-Bavel battlefield, Battambang Province, killed 158 Vietnamese enemy aggressors and wounded 210 others for a total of 368 casualties.

They destroyed a Goryunov, 2 B-40's, 13 AK's, a C-25 radio, 2 military barracks and a quantity of materiel. They cut two portions of Route 5.

Our comrades in arms seized 2 AK's, 1,200 rounds of AK ammunition, 13 AK clips and a quantity of materiel.

During the same time, our comrades in arms smashed a platoon intervention force. They attacked, liberated and occupied a position defending a Vietnamese battalion.

Concerning the production of primitive weapons, our comrades in arms made and planted 150,000 new spikes, dug 190 new punji pitfalls and set up 100 automatic bows.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people on the Sisophon-South of Route 5-Mongkolborei-Bavel battlefield.

Route 10-Pailin December Report

BK140248 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 13 Jan 82

[Text] Last December our comrades in arms on the Route 10-Pailin battlefield, Battambang Province, killed 174 Vietnamese enemy aggressors and wounded 205 others for a total of 379 casualties.

They destroyed 5 military barracks, 2 trenches and a quantity of materiel. They cut two portions of Route 10 totaling 9 meters.

Our comrades in arms seized a quantity of materiel and cut 2,000 meters of telephone wire.

Concerning the production of primitive weapons, our comrades in arms made and planted 170,000 new spikes, dug 90 new punji pitfalls and set up 80 new automatic bows.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people of the Route 10-Pailin battlefield.

December Action in Sisophon North

BK150904 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 14 Jan 82

[Text] Last December our comrades in arms on the Sisophon-North of Route 5-Thmar Puok-Phnum Srok-Preah Net Preah battlefield, Battambang Province, killed 121 Vietnamese enemy aggressors and wounded 255 others for a total of 376 casualties.

They destroyed a quantity of materiel and cut 700 meters of telephone line.
They seized a quantity of materiel.

During that month our comrades in arms smashed a Vietnamese company of intervention troops.

Concerning the production of primitive weapons, our comrades in arms made and planted 110,000 new spikes, dug 120 new punji pitfalls and set up 100 new automatic bows.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people on the Sisophon-North of Route 5-Thmar Puok-Phnum Srok-Preah Net Preah battlefield.

Kompong Thom Battle Report

BK150906 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 14 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Here is a daily battle report from the frontline battlefields: The Kompong Thom battlefield; Stoung District: On 6 January our guerrillas attacked a Vietnamese battalion position in Krayea Village, Krayea Commune, killing two Vietnamese enemy aggressors and wounding six others.

Our comrades in arms destroyed an AK, a military barrack and two trenches.

Fighting in Kompong Thom

BK160658 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 15 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Here is a daily battle report from the frontline battlefields:

The Kompong Thom battlefield, Stoung District: On 5 and 7 January our guerrillas ambushed the Vietnamese enemies south of Anlung Kranh Village, killing two and wounding three others. The Vietnamese aggressors stepped on our landmines along the road to Pok; three of them were killed and two others wounded.

Siem Reap-Route 6 December Report

BK160702 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 15 Jan 82

[Text] Last December our comrades in arms on the Siem Reap-Route 6 battlefield killed 158 Vietnamese enemies and wounded 157 others for a total of 315 casualties. Among those killed were a lieutenant colonel, 3 majors, a lieutenant and a Siem Reap provincial official.

Our comrades in arms destroyed a jeep, two 10-wheel trucks, 3 pistols, a 12.7 mm machinegun, an RPD, 3 B-40 and B-41's, 3 M-79's, 22 AK's, a C-25 radio, an ammunition storehouse, a military barracks, 6 trenches and a quantity of materiel.

Our comrades in arms seized 7 AK's, a B-40, a CKC, a carbine, 2,080 rounds of AK ammunition, 2 B-40 rockets, 100 carbine rounds, 12 AK clips, 7 bags of goods and a quantity of materiel.

During that month, our comrades in arms smashed three Vietnamese intervention forces--a platoon and two companies.

Concerning the production of primitive weapons, our comrades in arms made and planted 153,000 new spikes, dug 100 new punji pitfalls and set up 100 new automatic bows.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people on the Siem Reap-Route 6 battlefield.

December Fighting in Choam Khsan

BK180418 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 17 Jan 82

[Text] Last December our comrades in arms on the Choam Khsan-Preah Vihear battlefield killed 83 troops of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and wounded 98 others for a total of 181 enemy casualties. They destroyed an RPD, a B-40, an M-79, an AK, 2 trucks, 3 military barracks and 2 bridges south of (Ta Kem) Bridge totalling 29 meters in length. They seized 4 AK's, an SKS, 760 AK rounds, 50 SKS rounds and 3 rucksacks. They routed two Vietnamese intervention units--a company-size unit and a platoon-size unit.

In the production of primitive weapons, our comrades in arms made and planted 325,000 new punji stakes, dug 280 punji pitfalls and set 350 automatic bows.

Long live our valiant and courageous army, guerrillas and people on the Choam Khsan-Preah Vihear battlefield.

Clashes in Kratie Province

BK200600 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Excerpt] Here is a daily battle report from the frontline battlefields:

The Kratie battlefield: On 1 January our guerrillas attacked the Vietnamese enemies at the Khsa position, killing six and wounding three others. On 5 January our guerrillas ambushed the Vietnamese enemies near Toek Thla, killing 4 and seizing an M-79, an AK, an AR-15, 16 M-79 grenades, 30 rounds of AK ammunition and 6 rounds of AR-15 ammunition.

In sum, on the Kratie battlefield we inflicted 13 casualties on the enemies.

Central Region December Report

BK200605 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Text] Last December our comrades in arms on the central region battlefield killed 57 Vietnamese enemy aggressors and wounded 40 others for a total of 97 casualties. Among those killed were a Kompong Cham provincial official and a platoon commander.

Our comrades in arms destroyed a jeep, an M-40, 2 B-40's, an RPD, 5 AK's, a C-25 radio and a quantity of materiel.

They seized 3 AK's, an AR-15, 600 rounds of AK ammunition, 40 rounds of AR-15 ammunition and a quantity of materiel.

Concerning the production of primitive weapons, our comrades in arms made and planted 71,980 new spikes, dug 280 new punji pitfalls and set up 250 new automatic bows.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people on the central region battlefield.

Successes in Kompong Thom

BK240711 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 23 Jan 82

[Text] On 14 January our army and guerrillas attacked a Vietnamese enemies' platoon position in Khnol Village on Route 6, Stoung District, Kompong Thom Province. We killed 7 Vietnamese enemies and wounded 10 others. We destroyed a DK-75, an RPD, four AK's, two military barracks, four trenches and a quantity of materiel.

On the morning of 15 January the Vietnamese enemies came out to follow us, and they stepped on our landmines. Two of them were killed and three others were wounded.

As a result, we inflicted 22 casualties on the Vietnamese enemies. We destroyed a DK-75, an RPD, four AK's, two military barracks, four trenches and a quantity of materiel.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people in Stoung District, Kompong Thom Province.

Bakan-Pursat Battlefield December Action

BK240715 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 23 Jan 82

[Text] Last December our comrades in arms on the Bakan-Pursat battlefield killed 51 Vietnamese enemy aggressors and wounded 68 others for a total of 119 casualties.

They destroyed three military barracks, three AK's and a quantity of materiel.

In that month, our comrades in arms attacked and liberated two Vietnamese enemies' company positions.

Concerning the production of primitive weapons, our comrades in arms made and planted 160,000 new spikes, dug 230 new punji pitfalls and set up 140 new automatic bows.

Long live our valiant army, guerrillas and people on the Bakan-Pursat battlefield.

December Figures for Western Region

BK250931 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 24 Jan 82

[Text] Last December our comrades in arms on the western region battlefield killed 28 Vietnamese enemy aggressor troops and wounded 31 others for a total of 59 enemy casualties. They destroyed a quantity of weapons, ammunition and various other materiel.

In the production of primitive weapons, our comrades in arms made and planted 190,000 new punji stakes, dug 250 punji pitfalls and set 200 automatic bows.

Long live our valiant and courageous army, guerrillas and people on the western region battlefield.

18 January Kompong Thom Action

BK280657 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 26 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Here is a daily battle report from the frontline battlefields: The Kompong Thom battlefield, Stoung District: On 18 January our guerrillas ambushed the Vietnamese enemies near Tbeng Village, Trayea Commune, killing two of them and wounding three others for a total of five casualties.

Ambush in Kampot

BK311005 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea
2330 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Text] On 18 January our army and guerrillas ambushed a jeep of the Vietnamese division command members at the former junior high school in Chhuk District, Kampot Province. They destroyed the car, killed three Vietnamese and wounded six others, including a Vietnamese division command member who was seriously injured.

Long live our courageous army, guerrillas and people of Chhuk District, Kampot province.

CS0: 4212/10

BRIEFS

MESSAGE TO INDIA'S RAO--Recently Comrade Hun Sen, foreign minister of the PRK, sent a message of thanks to Mr Narasimha Rao, minister of external affairs of the Republic of India, for his congratulations on the third anniversary of the Kampuchean people's 7 January national independence day. The message says: I would like to extend profound thanks to your excellency for your congratulations on the PRK's third national day. May the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two countries develop further. [Text] [BK020356 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 1 Feb 82]

MESSAGE TO BULGARIAN LEADERS--Recently Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State; and Comrade Chan Si, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and acting chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, sent a message to Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Council of State; and Comrade Grisha Filipov, chairman of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Council of Ministers, thanking them for their greetings on the occasion of the third anniversary of the 7 January national independence day. The message says: On behalf of the KPRP Central Committee, and the Kampuchean Government and people, we would like to express our sincere thanks to you and through you to the BCP Central Committee, the Bulgarian Government and the fraternal Bulgarian people for their warm greetings on the occasion of our national day. We would like to thank the People's Republic of Bulgaria for its aid and support to our people in their national construction and defense against the maneuvers of the Chinese expansionists, the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces. We are confident that the friendly relations and fruitful cooperation between our two parties and peoples will be strengthened. [Text] [BK311134 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 30 Jan 82]

MESSAGE TO GDR LEADERS--Recently Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State; and Comrade Chan Si, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and acting chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, sent a message of thanks to Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] and chairman of the GDR Council of State; and Comrade Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers. The message says, among other things: On behalf of the KPRP Central Committee and the Kampuchea Government and people, we extend our cordial thanks to you and to the SED Central Committee, the government and fraternal people of the GDR for the warm congratulations extended us on the occasion of the PRK national

day. We express sincere thanks for the assistance and support that the GDR has given the Kampuchean people for its national construction and defense in the struggle against the acts of interference and maneuvers of the Chinese expansionists, U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces. We are convinced that the fraternal friendship and fruitful cooperation between our two parties, countries and peoples will grow firmer and remain profound forever. [Text] [BK010858 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 1 Feb 82]

MESSAGE TO LAO LEADERS--Recently Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State; and Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the PRK National Assembly, sent a message of thanks to Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and prime minister of the LPDR; and Comrade Souphanouvong, president of the LPDR and of the Supreme People's Council. The message says: We have the great honor to extend profound and sincere thanks to you for your warm greetings and best wishes on the occasion of the third anniversary of our 7 January national independence day. We are confident that the fraternal friendship, militant solidarity and close cooperation between our two countries will grow firmer in the interest of the revolutionary cause of our two fraternal countries and for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. May you, comrades, enjoy good health and greater victories in your noble tasks. [Text] [BK291254 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 29 Jan 82]

GREETINGS TO BULGARIAN LEADER--Recently Comrade Hun Sen, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the PRK, sent a message of thanks to Comrade Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of the Bulgarian People's Republic. The message says: I sincerely thank you for your cordial and pleasant congratulations sent me on the third anniversary of the PRK's 7 January national independence day. I am confident in and pleased with the bonds of fraternal friendship and cooperation between our two countries which based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, are growing firmer and becoming more profound for the well-being of our two peoples and in the interest of socialism and world peace. I wish you good health and great successes in fulfilling your noble tasks. [Text] [BK010844 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 1 Feb 82]

GREETINGS TO HUNGARIAN LEADERS--Recently Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State; and Comrade Chan Si, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and acting chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, sent a message of thanks to Comrade Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party [MSZMP] Central Committee; Comrade Pal Losonczi, president of the Hungarian People's Republic Presidential Council; and Comrade Gyorgy Lazar, premier of the Hungarian People's Republic Council of Ministers. The message says: On behalf of the KPRP, the government and people of Kampuchea, we express sincere thanks to you and, through you, to the MSZMP Central Committee, the government and fraternal people of Hungary for the warm congratulations which were extended to us on our national day. We extend profound thanks to the Hungarian People's Republic for the assistance and support given our people in the construction and defense of our country against the maneuvers of the Beijing expansionists, U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces. We are convinced that the fraternal relations and cooperation between our two parties, governments and peoples will grow firmer and deeper. [Text] [BK010552 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 31 Jan 82]

HENG SAMRIN'S GREETING TO CASTRO--On the occasion of Comrade Heng Samrin's appointment as general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee, Comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, expressed his warm congratulations to the former. In response to this kind and true gesture, Comrade Heng Samrin sent a message of thanks to Comrade Fidel Castro. The message reads: I wish the fraternal relations between our two parties, governments and peoples will grow stronger every day in the joint struggle against U.S. imperialism and Chinese hegemonism--expansionism for peace, independence, democracy and social progress. My best wishes to you. May you obtain great successes in the fulfillment of your noble task. [Text] [BK050931 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 1 Jan 82]

HENG SAMRIN'S MESSAGE TO TSEDENBAL--On 25 December Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the PRK, sent a message of thanks to Comrade Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural of the MPR. The message says in parts: We highly appreciate the valuable assistance and firm support of the MPRP and the government and fraternal people of Mongolia to the just cause of revolution of the PRK--the defense of national independence and freedom and the reconstruction of our country in order to advance toward socialism. We are convinced that the ties of friendship, fraternal solidarity and close cooperation between the Kampuchean and Mongolian peoples will grow firmer with every passing day. [Text] [BK040818 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 30 Dec 81]

MESSAGE TO SOCIALIST PARTY LEADERS--On 30 December Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, sent messages of thanks to party and government leaders of friendly socialist countries who had congratulated him on his appointment as general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee. The party and government leaders of friendly socialist countries who received these messages were Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria; Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the GDR; Comrade Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee; and Comrade Gustav Husak, general secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee and president of the CSSR. In these messages, Comrade Heng Samrin said: I am deeply satisfied with the relations of fraternal friendship, militant solidarity and enthusiastic cooperation that exist between our parties and governments. I am firmly convinced that these relations, which are based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, will steadily become stronger. [Text] [BK051535 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 3 Jan 82]

HENG SAMRIN THANKS AFGHAN LEADER--Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the PRK, sent a message of thanks on 21 December to Comrade Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Democratic People's Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The message reads: I sincerely thank you for your warm congratulations on the occasion of my appointment as the general secretary of the KPRP. We highly appreciate the support given by the Afghan party

and people to the Kampuchean Government and people in the struggle for a correct revolutionary cause and for peace and stability in Asia and the world. We wish you the best of health, happiness and great successes in your noble task. May the fraternal relations and cooperation between our two parties and peoples grow steadily stronger. [Text] [BK051226 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 2 Jan 82]

CHAN SI THANKS HUNGARIAN MINISTER--On the occasion of the new year, Comrade Chan Si, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, acting chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers and minister of national defense, sent a message to Comrade Army Gen Lajos Czinege, minister of defense of the Hungarian People's Republic. The message reads: Dear Comrade Minister: "We are extremely touched to have received a greetings message from you on the occasion of the new year. We would like to thank you very much for the greetings you sent to me and to our National Defense Ministry. We take this opportunity to express on behalf of the National Defense Ministry of the PRK and all cadres and combatants of the KPRAF and in my own name our best wishes to you and to all cadres and combatants of the Hungarian People's Army. May you enjoy good health and more and greater successes in your mission of defending and building socialism together with the Hungarian people and of the socialist community. May the fraternal friendship between the peoples and armies of Kampuchea and Hungary grow stronger and firmer with every passing day. Dear comrade minister, please accept our most sincere regards. [Text] [BK091432 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 9 Jan 82]

HUN SEN THANKS GDR OFFICIAL--On 12 January Comrade Hun Sen, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs, sent a message of thanks to Comrade (Guenter Schoender), chief of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany's Central Committee's International Relations Department. The message says: On behalf of all members of the KPRP Central Committee and in my own name, I extend profound thanks to you for your intimate salutations and best wishes sent to us on the occasion of new year. May the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two states grow stronger and become more fruitful in the interest of peace and socialism. [Text] [BK200744 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 19 Jan 82]

CHAN VEN THANKS SRV OFFICIAL--On 14 January Comrade Chan Ven, president of the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association, sent a message of thanks to Comrade Tham Van Ba, president of the Vietnam-Kampuchea Subassociation. The message says, among other things: On behalf of the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association of the PRK, we extend warmest and most profound thanks to the Vietnam-Kampuchea Subassociation of Ho Chi Minh City for congratulating us on the occasion of our 7 January national independence day anniversary. Dear comrade president of the Vietnam-Kampuchea Subassociation: The bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two peoples have flourished and are flourishing as our two peoples desire. No force can break the bond of militant solidarity between Kampuchea and Vietnam, which always remains everlasting. [Text] [BK211121 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 21 Jan 82]

GREETINGS FROM SOCIALIST COUNTRIES--Comrade Hun Sen, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the PRK, has received messages from the foreign ministers of various friendly countries greeting him on the occasion of the third anniversary

of the 7 January national independence day. These messages were from Comrade Oskar Fischer, foreign minister of the GDR; Comrade Paulo Teixeira Jorge, foreign minister of the People's Republic of Angola; Comrade Salim Salih Muhammad, foreign minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen; Comrade Mangalyn Dugersuren, foreign minister of the Mongolian People's Republic; Comrade Frigyes Puja, foreign minister of the Hungarian People's Republic. The contents of these messages say in part: On the occasion of the third anniversary of the 7 January national independence day of the PRK, we extend most cordial congratulations to you. The comrade can be assured that our countries will continue to give active support to the fraternal Kampuchean people's struggle in order to enable the PRK to enjoy the full rights on the international arena, as well as to demand the PRK's legitimate rights in the United Nations for the PRK. We wish the comrade good health and great victories in your noble tasks. [Text] [BK211145 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 21 Jan 82]

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM LAOS--On 21 January 1982 at 1100, a Propaganda and Education Commission delegation led by Comrade Pao Hamphan, deputy director of the commission's offices, returned to the fatherland after successfully ending their mission to the LPDR. Present at the Pochentong Airport to receive the delegation were Comrade (Nim Thot), chief of the commission's office; and many cadres and employees of the commission. [Text] [BK220928 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 22 Jan 82]

CHEA SIM THANKS CUBAN--Recently Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the KUFNCD National Council, sent a message of thanks to Comrade Jose Ramirez Cruz, president of the C.A.P. [expansion unknown] of the Republic of Cuba, for his warm congratulatory message on the occasion of the third national independence day of the PRK. The message says, among other things: The Kampuchean people throughout the country reaffirm their resolute struggle against the interference by the U.S. imperialists, Beijing hegemonist-expansionists and other reactionaries. We are firmly convinced that the bonds of fraternal friendship, firm solidarity and close cooperation between our two peoples will further strengthen and develop for peace, stability and genuine socialism. [Text] [BK250327 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 23 Jan 82]

CHEA SIM THANKS GDR'S SINDERMANN--Recently Comrade Chea Sim, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and the KUFNCD National Council, sent a message of thanks to Comrade Horst Sindermann, chairman of the GDR People's Chamber. The message reads: On behalf of the PRK National Assembly and in my own name, I would like to extend profound thanks to you for your congratulations on the occasion of the Kampuchean people's national day. We are elated and proud that the party, government, people and particularly all the workers of the GDR have paid constant attention to the situation in the PRK and have continuously given wholehearted assistance and support to the Kampuchean party, government and people in their opposition to all kinds of imperialist and hegemonist maneuvers and interference in the PRK's internal affairs. They have also supported the construction of a new Kampuchea which is independent, peaceful, free and prosperous and advances toward socialism. We are convinced that the relations between the people's representatives of our two nations will further strengthen and develop in the interests of the PRK and GDR peoples. [Text] [BK020345 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 1 Feb 82]

EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE--Recently His Excellency Mohamed Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, sent a message to Khieu Samphan, chairman of the State Presidium and prime minister of Democratic Kampuchea, greeting him and the Kampuchean people on the occasion of the 1982 new year. The message says: His Excellency Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Democratic Kampuchean State Presidium: On the auspicious occasion of this new year, I would like to express my warmest greetings to your excellency and I would like to wish you prosperity and that the Kampuchean people may enjoy happiness. With this, I would like to wish that the new year bring peace to the whole world. Best regards, [signed] Mohamed Husni Mubarak. [Text] [BK060722 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 3 Jan 82]

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON KAMPUCHEA--Austria's Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr, who is visiting the Philippines, says he believes careful diplomacy may persuade Vietnam to negotiate a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. He told reporters it would be in the interest of Hanoi to withdraw from Cambodian territory, provided it gets the necessary guarantees that the ousted Khmer Rouge regime and the influences of China would not be restored in Cambodia. [Text] [HK270152 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 0130 GMT 27 Jan 82]

THAI OFFICIALS ON KHMER ROUGE, COALITION--Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila declined to comment on the Khmer Rouge's rejection of Singapore's proposal for a loose coalition of the three Khmer resistance factions. Meanwhile, Director General of the Information Department Chet Sutcharitkun said he expected that the five member countries of the ASEAN would consult each other before giving a response. Referring to the Khmer Rouge's call for a new summit of the three resistance factions and the possibility of holding the meeting in one of the five ASEAN nations, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi said he did not think ASEAN was ready for the summit which, in his opinion, was not an urgent matter for the time being. He preferred to wait for the result of the forthcoming meeting in Beijing between Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Democratic Kampuchea's President Khieu Samphan and Son Sann of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front. An ASEAN diplomat commented that although the Khmer Rouge's rejection was not unexpected they still supported the aim of the coalition provided that it contained well-defined political principles. The Khmer Rouge has previously insisted on consensus decisionmaking in the proposed coalition. Such a formula would give the Khmer Rouge veto power not allowing them to be outvoted by the other factions. [Text] [BK271609 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 27 Jan 82]

MESSAGE TO LE DUAN--Hanoi, 8 Jan (VNA)--Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, has sent a message to Le Duan, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, thanking him for his congratulations on his nomination to the highest post in the Kampuchean party leadership. "The People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea highly values the Vietnamese people's proletarian international solidarity, considering it as a factor for the defence and building of peace, stability, sovereignty and national independence of the three Indochinese countries," Heng Samrin says. [Text] [OW081559 Hanoi VNA in English 1518 GMT 8 Jan 82]

IS: 3220/229

BRIEFS

PUBLIC HEALTH COOPERATION WITH CSSR--Vientiane, 1 Jan (KPL)--The 1981-1985 memorandum on public health cooperation between Laos and Czechoslovakia was signed in Vientiane on 31 December. According to the term of the memorandum, the two countries will exchange medical experts, documents and lessons in the fields of medical sciences. Signing the document were, on the Lao side, Dr Khamliang Phonsena, acting minister of public health, and, on the Czechoslovak side, its ambassador Ladislav Kocsis. [Text] [BK031407 Vientiane KPL in English 0936 GMT 1 Jan 82]

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM CUBA--Vientiane, 6 Jan (KPL)--A Laos-Cuba friendship delegation led by Khambou Soumisai, head of the National Committee for Labour and Wage, arrived home from Cuba on 5 January. The delegation attended the consultative meeting on Indochina sponsored by OSPAA [expansion unknown]. Khambou Soumisai also attended the first session of the intergovernmental committees for economic, scientific and technical cooperation between Laos and Cuba and participated at the celebration of the 6th founding anniversary of Laos in Havana. [Text] [BK081509 Vientiane KPL in English 0928 GMT 6 Jan 82]

MPR AGRICULTURAL DELEGATION--Vientiane, 28 Dec (KPL)--An Agriculture Ministry delegation of the Mongolian People's Republic led by its deputy minister, Dendevine Yadaabaa, arrived here on 26 December for an official friendship visit to Laos. The Mongolian delegation is to take part in the ceremony of handing-over of the friendship sheep and goat raising station in the northern Xieng Khouang Province. The Mongolian Government has helped in the construction of modern facilities for sheep and goats. Mongolia is also to supply Laos with the high breeds. Khamphet Phommavan, deputy minister of agriculture, forestry and irrigation, and Mongolian Ambassador to Laos Jambyn Nyamaa greeted the delegation at the airport. [Text] [BK281050 Vientiane KPL in English 0924 GMT 28 Dec 81]

USSR HANDICRAFT OFFICIALS--Vientiane, 30 Dec (KPL)--Sisana Sisan, minister for propaganda, information, culture and tourism, on 29 December met Soviet officials responsible for last week's exhibition of Soviet handicrafts. The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality. Marina Kokhan, official of a Soviet museum of fine art, headed the delegation to put on an exhibition of 19th and 20th centuries Soviet handicraft articles which recently closed with success. The exhibition was aimed to promote understanding and appreciation of culture and tradition between the Lao and Soviet peoples. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0929 GMT 30 Dec 81]

HIN HEUP BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTED--Vientiane, 29 Dec (KPL)--Construction work of Hin Heup Bridge (app. 80 km north of Vientiane) was recently completed. The construction of this iron-bridge on Highway No 13 to replace the old one damaged by floods last August was done by the Vientiane Bridge and Road Construction Enterprise, under the Ministry of Communication, Public Works and Transport. Sweden helped in funding the construction of this 143 metre long and 4.5 metre wide bridge which can take the load of up to 49 tons. Sali Vongkhamsao, secretary of the party Central Committee, vice premier, chairman of the National Planning Committee, cut the ribbon to mark the official opening of the bridge. Also among those present at the ceremony which took place on 27 December were Khamphoui Keoboulapha, acting minister of communication, public works and transport; Thongsavat Yamani, secretary of the party and state institutions; Thongdam Manivan, chairman of the Vientiane Province Administrative Committee. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 29 Dec 81]

PROVINCIAL DELEGATION VISITS SRV--Vientiane, 31 Dec (KPL)--A delegation of nationalities of the northern Luang Namtha Province led by Bounmi Chitdamlong, returned home on 23 December after ending its 20-day friendship visit to the Vietnamese province of Vinh Phu. During its stay in Vietnam, the Lao delegation held talks with Vinh Phu provincial officials on cooperation and mutual assistance between the two provinces. It also visited some factories and production bases in the province. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 31 Dec 81]

BREZHNEV'S BIRTHDAY PARTY--Vientiane, 22 Dec (KPL)--Soviet Ambassador V.F. Sobchenko held a get-together on 19 December at his chancellery to mark the 75th birthday of L. Brezhnev, secretary general of the CPSU CC and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet. Present on this occasion were Kot Sitlakon, vice general secretary of the Foreign Ministry and other high-ranking officials of the said ministry. N.P. Firubin, deputy foreign minister of the USSR, and diplomatic envoys of the fraternal socialist countries to Laos were also present. V.F. Sobchenko and Kot Sitlakon addressed the gathering hailing L. Brezhnev's revolutionary activities recorded since his adolescence up till now. Other diplomatic envoys also gave speeches congratulating L. Brezhnev's untiring struggle for the CPSU, the state and the Soviet people as well as for the socialist community. [Text] [BK240947 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 22 Dec 81]

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM USSR--Vientiane, 18 Dec (KPL)--A delegation of the Ministry of Industry and trade headed by its deputy-minister Nousai Sitthisai returned home from the USSR on 17 December. During its stay the Lao delegation signed the 1982 protocol on trade between Laos and the USSR. [Text] [BK240947 Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 18 Dec 81]

VIETNAMESE PAPER DELEGATION ARRIVES--Vientiane, 22 Dec (KPL)--A delegation of the Vietnamese newspaper NHAN DAN led by its editorial board member, Tran Kien, who is also head of the International Socialist Service, arrived here on 21 December. The Vietnamese delegation will pay a 7-day friendship visit to Laos and exchange views on mutual assistance with its Lao counterpart. [Text] [BK240947 Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 22 Dec 81]

VIETNAMESE ART TROUPE'S CALL--Vientiane, 23 Dec (KPL)--Ounheuan Phounsavat, deputy minister of propaganda, information, culture and tourism received here on 19 December the Vietnamese art troupe led by Din Thien Bao. The Vietnamese art troupe arrived here in the beginning of this month to conduct performances on the occasion of the sixth national day's celebration. The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of warm cordiality. [Text] [BK240947 Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 23 Dec 81]

UN AID MATERIALS--Vientiane, 21 Dec (KPL)--The UN Organization [UNO] presented \$1 million worth of aid items to Laos on 19 December. Taking part at the handover ceremony were Nousai Sitthisai, deputy minister of industry and trade, and Caspar Kamp, representative of the United Nations Development Programs (UNDP) to Laos. The aid items allocated for development of land-locked countries consisted of 20 trucks. Nousai Sitthisai, on this occasion, expressed his thanks for this assistance of the UNO which will be used in national construction of Laos. [Text] [BK240947 Vientiane KPL in English 0958 GMT 21 Dec 81]

PLO PHOTO EXHIBITION--Vientiane, 24 Dec (KPL)--The Ministry of Propaganda, Information, Culture and Tourism in collaboration with the Palestine Liberation Organization's representative to Laos, on 23 December organized a photo exhibition marking the 17th anniversary of the Palestine revolutionary armed struggle. Present on this occasion were Sisana Sisan, alternate member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC, minister of propaganda, information, culture and tourism, along with a number of officials from government institutions and mass organizations. Diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations to Laos were also present on the occasion. [Text] [BK240947 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 24 Dec 81]

MPR AID MATERIALS TO INDUSTRY--Vientiane, 16 Dec (KPL)--Aid items from the Mongolian People's Republic were handed over to the Ministry of Industry and Trade on 15 December. The aid included 40,000 ton of canned meat, 19,000 pairs of leather shoes and 500 sweaters. The presentation of this aid was an act of implementation of the agreement on assistance signed in 1979 between the two countries. According to the terms of this agreement [the MPR] is to assist Laos with 5,000,000 tugrik (Mongolian currency). The aid items were presented to Maisouk Saisompheng, minister of industry and trade, by Jambyn Nyamaa, Mongolian ambassador to Laos. [Text] [BK161020 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 16 Dec 81]

SOVIET-AIDED CAR REPAIR SHOPS--Vientiane, 13 Jan (KPL)--A memorandum on the construction of car repair shops was signed in Vientiane on 12 January between Laos and the Soviet Union. Signing the memorandum were: on the Lao side Bouasi Lovansai, head of Mechanic Department and Lao Transit Company, and, on the Soviet side, Betextine [name as received], first engineer of the Research Institute of the USSR. Present on the signing ceremony were Khamphoui Keoboulapha, acting minister of communication, public works and transport, [and] Sizov, counselor of the Soviet Embassy to Laos, along with other officials of Laos and the Soviet Union. These car-repair shops funded by the Soviet Union will be constructed at the beginning of 1983 in Savannakhet, Champassak and Luang Prabang Provinces. Apart from the construction of car-repair shops, the Soviet Union will also assist materially and financially in the construction of goods' storehouses in the said provinces. [Text] [BK150255 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 13 Jan 82]

SOUTHERN ROADS REPAIRED--Vientiane, 14 Jan (KPL)--Six km of damaged roads in Veunsai Village, Phonhong District in the southern Champassak Province last month were completely repaired by the local efforts. [Text] [BK150255 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 14 Jan 82]

BURMESE NATIONAL DAY BANQUET--Vientiane, 5 Jan (KPL)--U Minh Hlaing, charge d'affaires of the Burmese Embassy to Laos, on 4 January organized a banquet here to mark Burmese national day. Present on this occasion were Sali Vongkhamsao, vice-premier and chairman of the National Planning Committee; Khamphai Boupha, acting-minister of foreign affairs, along with a number of high-ranking officials. Diplomatic envoys to Laos were also on hand on this occasion. The banquet proceeded in an atmosphere of warm friendship. [Text] [BK061251 Vientiane KPL in English 0926 GMT 5 Jan 82]

HUNGARIAN EXPERTS AWARDED MEDALS--Vientiane, 5 Jan (KPL)--The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Irrigation held here a medal awarding ceremony on 4 January for Hungarian experts for their assistance in the exploration of Artesian well. The engineers have been working in exploration of Artesian well, started 2 years ago in Luang Prabang, Vientiane, Savannakhet and Champassak Provinces. The team also assisted in the designing of some irrigating projects. Present on this occasion were Khamphet Phommavan, deputy minister of agriculture, forestry and irrigation, and Bela Torocsik, 3rd secretary of the Hungarian Embassy to Laos. [Text] [BK061251 Vientiane KPL in English 0931 GMT 5 Jan 82]

GIFTS FROM HUNGARIAN YOUTHS--Vientiane, 9 Jan (KPL)--Phoumi Vongvichit, minister of education, sports and religious affairs, on 8 January received gifts from the Hungarian Pioneers and Union of Young Communists. The gifts include bicycles, educational equipment and others for children. Present on the handover ceremony were Janos Zegnal, Hungarian ambassador to Laos and a number of the high-ranking officials in the Education Ministry. On this occasion, Phoumi Vongvichit thanked the Hungarian Pioneers and youth and said that these gifts are a symbol of the close link between the two people. [Text] [BK120311 Vientiane KPL in English 0928 GMT 9 Jan 82]

CSO: 4220/226

NEPAL

BRIEFS

MINISTER'S RESIGNATION REPORTED--His Majesty the King, in accordance with the constitution of Nepal, has accepted the resignation by Assistant Finance Minister Badra Prasad Mandal on domestic grounds to Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa with effect from today. This was stated in a notice published today by the principal press secretariat of His Majesty the King. [Text] [BK311630 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 31 Jan 82]

CSO: 4220/221

COLUMN EXAMINES FUTURE POLITICAL DIRECTION

Karachi DAWN in English 25 Jan 82 p 5

[Islamabad Diary Column by M. A. Mansuri: "Majlis--the Question of a Political Vacuum"]

[Text] IT IS difficult to say which attracted greater attention of the people here last week: the Majlis-i-Shoora, the politicians who let loose a spate of statements which is still continuing, or the incidents leading to the discovery of arms dumps and involving violence which has attracted a lot of attention ever since a particular terrorist group was officially recognised as a major source of trouble.

All the three appear as having a considerable potential to grow when viewed in the context of the present state of our national politics. But, apparently, this growth cannot be simultaneous, and this point deserves the attention of every Pakistani who knows something about the working of the laws of history.

Before proceeding to explain the position, I must point out that though the pre-censorship on the Press has been lifted, the Press still has to keep in mind certain restrictions which make it liable to action if it publishes certain types of reports even if they are "true and in public interest". The political activity in the country continues to be totally banned and cannot be reported if the existing laws are strictly enforced. The Shoora members are immune from action for anything said in the Majlis session. But the Press is not free to report it if it is construed to fall within the mu-

chief of the existing laws.

Inherent weakness

Anyway, among the three that I have mentioned, the Majlis-i-Shoora appears to be the most potent factor in the present context because of the powerful interests which have brought it into being. But whether it really has the potential to serve those interests adequately is yet to be seen. Its first session did not conclude before causing embarrassment to the Government. During its marathon debate on the country's internal situation, when the members rose one after another to express dissatisfaction over a large number of points, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the Federal Finance Minister, had to remind the members that the Majlis had not been constituted to criticise government policies.

Even then the general comment on its performance was rather cynical. When it gave its unanimous approval to the country's foreign policy after a two-day closed-door debate, it was said to have been created just for this kind of support. Later, when many of its members came out with strong criticism of various aspects of the country's internal situation in an open debate, it was taken as a stage-managed show to establish the Shoora's credibility, so that at a later date its support could be obtained for important decisions about the country's political future.

This shows the inherent weakness

that the Majlis suffers from in the matter of its prestige, besides the limitation of its powers. Khawaja Mohammad Safdar, the Shoora Chairman, seems to be conscious of this position, which, perhaps, was the reason why he reiterated several times within a few days after the Shoora's first session that he will make the Majlis act like the National Assembly.

The functions that the Majlis is required to perform were spelt out on the first day of its first session. Among other things, it is required to "fill the political vacuum during the interim period" and to "pave the way for the transfer of power at an appropriate time."

Acting as National legislature it may succeed in serving the second requirement - transfer of power at an appropriate time, but it cannot meet the first requirement - filling the political vacuum. For this, it will have to act as a political party, which will initiate a process forcing other political groups which have been lying low so far to come out in the open. In fact, this process has already started, even before the Shoora's assuming the role of a political party in a normal sense - which cannot be forced overnight. It is obvious that by the time it is woven into a single political identity and given the role of an effective political force, the other groups which have continued to function one way or another despite their having been declared as defunct will have scored many points.

The MRD, which has brought to-

gether such old-time rivals as the Tehrik-I-Islami and the PPP, has been meeting regularly despite the ban on political activity. Its Central Committee is scheduled to meet again on January 27 at Karachi. The other political groups are also actively engaged in a dialogue, seeking to form another alliance. The objective is the same - to offer an alternative to what they believe is being planned for the country's future by way of a new political experiment. They have already worked out the minimum to serve as the basis for their cooperation: restoration of democracy and revival of the 1973 Constitution in full. There is also a small group of some senior politicians from Baluchistan which is talking of wild possibilities. This, too, is not without its sympathisers in the smaller provinces.

Consensus

After long chats with the leaders of some of these political groups last week, I found that there is a consensus among them in favour of what they call a Grand National Assembly comprising all number one and number two candidates of the 1977 Elections. As an alternative, they support the formation of a national government to be constituted with two representatives of each known political party, which would prepare the ground for holding General Elections within a set time-limit. But they have not had any contact with the Government for a

long time, and do not want to look eager to establish it themselves. So, they are not sure how the government would react to it.

Khawaja Saifdar feels that the Shura should be able to complete its task in about a year's time. But, what is that task? The feeling in knowledgeable quarters in Islamabad is that it is to recommend drastic amendments in the 1973 Constitution, to be worked out by the Islamic Ideology Council and the Law Ministry, and then suggest some kind of a national referendum on what might well be a new constitutional framework to suit the purpose of Islamic democracy.

Such a move will bring the Majlis members into confrontation with the known political parties which are bound to oppose it. The Government is in full command of the situation and can easily control such a contingency. But will it not, while doing so, hamper the process of filling the political vacuum which it is intended to do?

Subversive elements

Besides, one cannot rule out the possibility that a reversal of this process will indirectly give encouragement to the subversive elements who are slowly acquiring notoriety as a factor in the country's political life.

It is true that they have not been able to find sympathy among the people, and the Government has crushed them effectively wherever

they have been found. But it is also a fact that they have made their presence in the country felt as was indicated in the Majlis debate on internal security where a particular terrorist outfit found its name mentioned repeatedly. This group has acquired an importance where all unresolved crimes involving violence are put down to its credit. Disclosures by the four armed young men arrested in Rawalpindi last week about the working of the terrorists in Pakistan and their training camps in Kabul attracted a lot of attention from the common people who also appeared inclined to believe that the recent armed raid on Rawalakot jail, freeing eight prisoners, was also an act of this group.

However, it is obvious that the process which has already been started to fill the existing political vacuum in the country will in the coming months need careful handling of things and a mature political approach by all the relevant parties. The best course can, perhaps, be evolved through mutual consultation - may be at a round-table conference, bypassing the possibility of a confrontation. While trying to evolve a united national approach, we must also keep in mind the external forces which in concert are capable of making an attempt to exploit the situation at the first available opportunity. Already we have heard stories of letters being circulated among foreign diplomatic missions, and of anonymous requests being sent across the borders, asking for help.

EDITORIAL DECRIES RADIO MOSCOW PROPAGANDA

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 28 Jan 82 p 4

[Editorial: "For Pete's Sake Radio Moscow!"]

[Text]

RADIO MOSCOW is the powerful voice of a super-power. It should therefore think before it speaks. Prof. Khwaja Masud, one of the most revered teachers in the country and a regular contributor to this newspaper, has sent in a piece on Pakistan Television which we will publish in a day or two. It begins with a couple of lines from Shakespeare:

*But soft! what light through
yonder window breaks?*

*It speaks and yet says
nothing.*

this cannot be said of Radio Moscow. it speaks and it says a lot of things and since it speaks too much and says too much, it often violates all norms of neighbourly propriety. The other day, it chose to quote a report published by an Indian magazine, according to which Pakistan was helping the United States "for armed intervention in Iran in order to instal its puppet regime there" Had Moscow Radio not elected to quote this mad calumny, we would have considered it beneath our dignity even to refute it. But when we hear the crassly stupid and viciously irresponsible charge repeated in the Voice of the Union of Soviet

Socialist Republics, it puts a sinister construction on the whole issue altogether. There are forces — external and internal — at work in India (and Pakistan) which are trying their damndest to prevent normalisation in the region. Is Radio Moscow one of them? All this nonsense about "the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force and the Pakistan Army jointly" moving "to carry out the operation" should at least have been verified by Radio Moscow's own extensive sources before being put on the air. Pakistan has often enough officially denied of there being more to its recent arms and economic aid deal with the United States than meets the naked eye but the weak, it appears, are never truthful. Give a dog a bad name and hang him, eh? Well, if such be Radio Moscow's policy, we'll at least bark even if we cannot bite. Be your age, Radio Moscow, for Pete's sake! This is not the way to make friends in Pakistan or maybe those who have all the guns on their side don't need friends. There is, however, one secret deal we have with all the peoples of the USSR: we love them, Radio Moscow notwithstanding to which worthy station we'll never tune in again.

MRD LEADERS MEET

Karachi DAWN in English 28 Jan 82 p 12

[Text]

A "working lunch", lasting about four hours, was held on Wednesday by the defunct Pakistan People's Party leader, Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, at his Karachi residence, at which matters pertaining to the MRD (Movement for Restoration of Democracy) were believed to have been discussed.

Begum Nusrat Bhutto, who arrived in Karachi from Larkana on Tuesday night, was present. Others present included the defunct NDP chief, Sardar Sherbaz Khan Mazari, and his Information Secretary, Mr Abid Zuberi, as well as Mr Hashim Ghilzai (Quetta), Mr Abdul Khalik Khan (NWFP) and Mr Ghulam Nabi Kango.

Sources close to the MRD, meanwhile, said there was little likelihood of the MRD meeting taking place in Karachi in the foreseeable future. Mr Mazari, who is the convener of the MRD for the current month, was ordered on Wednesday to be expelled from Sind.

Mr Zuberi, when contacted, said that when politicians met, they did not "obviously" talk of weather.

It was reliably understood that apart from the MRD affairs, the proposal for a grand assembly, said to have been mooted by

the defunct PPP, came up.

Mr Jatoi has said that the proposal, put forward in all earnestness as a way out of the impasse, is not "superimposed" and is amenable to amendment.

During informal consultations between the defunct NDP and PPP leaders, notice was believed to have been taken of the criticism of the grand assembly scheme. However, it could not be ascertained whether any amendment to it was being contemplated or any other alternative was discussed.

Mr Zuberi said that the format for a bigger political platform was being "carefully" prepared. It would neither be an electoral alliance nor the forging of unity among the various political dispensations, he said. "It will be a platform strictly for one purpose, namely, the restoration of democracy, to which all political parties as well as the present regime are committed", he pointed out.

Meanwhile, a source close to Begum Nusrat Bhutto expressed his ignorance about an item published in a Lahore daily, saying that Begum Bhutto had decided to amend the defunct PPP's manifesto to bring it in line with the changed times.

CSO: 4220/236

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN EXPECTS EARLY ELECTIONS

Karachi DAWN in English 28 Jan 82 p 1

[Article by M. A. Mansuri]

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Jan. 27: Majlis-i-Shoora Chairman Khwaja Safdar on Wednesday said he hoped General elections in the country will be held very soon. He was asked by newsmen at a Press conference how he hoped to give representative character to the Shoora.

Questioned further how soon — months or years — he said: "Maybe months, maybe a year."

Replying to other questions, he said the Shoora will try to get recognition from the International Parliamentary Union which was suspended following dissolution of the Parliament in July 1977.

He pointed out that already parliamentary delegations from Tanzania and UK have visited Pakistan.

Khwaja Safdar said Standing Committees of the Shoora on various Ministries and Divisions were being finalised. Their number has now been increased from 24 to 27, bifurcating certain subjects such as Planning from Finance and Railways from Communications. Each committee will have 11 members — five from Punjab, three from Sind, two from NWFP and one from Baluchistan. Every woman member may have to be placed on more than one committees because each committee will have one woman member while the number of woman members in the House is small.

He said formation of the committees had been delayed

because a large number of members wished to be included as their first preference in certain committees, such as the Finance Committee.

The Shoora Chairman said so far he had not received any resignation from any member. The seat of Rana Khudasad, who died last week, will be filled by the President.

He agreed with the Shoora members who complained that the allowances they were getting were not enough to meet the expenses they have to incur during the sessions. Even the rent of Government Hostel rooms, which was Rs. 25 for Government servants, was raised to Rs. 200 for the Shoora members. Similarly, the charges for meals and tea in the restaurant were exorbitant. He said he would take up the matter with the President.

A good number of the members, he said, especially those from the business community, were not in favour of frequent and long sessions because of their other engagements.

APP adds: Replying to a question, Khwaja Safdar said a summary of main points in speeches made by the members of the Majlis in its first session is almost ready to be presented to the President.

To another questioner, Khwaja Safdar said he himself felt that present allowances of the members were inadequate and should be revised.

Khwaja Safdar said he hoped the President will nominate the remaining 63 members before the next session which is expected to be held in the first week of March.

RESTRICTIONS AGAINST MAZARI, OTHERS

Karachi DAWN in English 28 Jan 82 p 1

[Text] Sardar Sherbaz Kan Mazari, President of the defunct National Democratic Party (NDP), has been ordered to be externed from the province of Sind. The externment order, valid for 90 days, was served on Wednesday.

According to the party's Central Information Secretary, Mr Abid Zuberi, Mr Mazari has protested to the higher authorities and has asked for a review on the plea that he was a resident of Karachi where he was also a registered voter and was elected to the National Assembly from constituency Karachi-II in 1977.

Mr Zuberi said the NDP chief had no plans to leave Karachi immediately and was awaiting decision on his plea.

Meanwhile, the Sind Home Department on Wednesday also served an order on the defunct Pakistan People's Party leader, Mr Abdul Hafeez Pirzada, restraining him from indulging in any activity of political nature.

The order reminded him that as political activities were banned under MLR 48, any violation would make him liable to action under the law.

Two leaders of the defunct NDP from the NWFP--Haji Ghulam Mohammad Bilore and Mr Abdul Khaliq Khan--who had arrived in Karachi on Tuesday, have also been externed and are leaving for Peshawar by train on Thursday.

In addition, the Sind Home Department served a notice on Khwaja Khairuddin of the defunct Pakistan Muslim League (Khairuddin Group), restraining him from political activity.

CSO: 4220/235

TRIAL FOR SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 21 Jan 82 p 13

[Text]

HEARING in the trial of Prof. Sved Jamaluddin Naqvi, Mohammad Jam Saqui and eight others continued in the court of the Special Military Court No. 5, Karachi. The court is presided over by Col. Syed Mohammad Hatim Zaidi.

Others accused in the case are Ghulam Shabbir Sher, Ahmad Kamal Warsi, Sohail Sangi, Amer Lal, Babar Jamal Abro, Imam Ali, Jabbar Khattak and Naranjan Kumar. They were held under an F.I.R. of Police station North Nazimabad, Karachi, and challaned under section 13/15/18 (3) and 48 M.L.R. 1977/R/W, 77/512 MLO and 124-A 153-A, PPC (23)(1) (i) and (1) of West Pakistan Press and Publication Ordinance 1963.

According to the Prosecution's opening address, the accused jointly and severally indulged in subversive activities against the Government by publishing and distributing literature. It maintained that such literature and printing materials, including machines, had been seized. The Prosecution claimed it had sufficient material to prove that "through such literature the primary aim of the accused persons was to create class hatred, subversion of low-income groups of the people, armed forces and the police, creation of wedge between rulers and ruled, criticism of CMLA, projection of communist ideology, Russian/Afghanisthan point of view or Pakistan's support to Afghan refugees". The Prosecution address said that confessional statements of Wasti had been recorded under section 165 Cr. P.C and that they

had involved some other accused persons as well.

According to the Prosecution, Imam Ali, Jabbar Khattak and Naranjan Kumar were shown as absconders in the challan.

Ibni Safi

During the cross-examination the first Prosecution witness, Aslam Noor Khan, Sub-Inspector Police, said that the Masbir Nama for the arrest of Shabbir Sher and Ahmad Kamal Warsi was not prepared by him. He could not tell whether the material recovered was the personal property of the accused nor could he tell which material belonged to Shabbir Sher and which to Kamal Wasti. He said that no remand had been obtained for the two accused from any Magistrate. He admitted that he had studied up to the 9th class and in literature he had read only novels by Ibni Safi. The witness said he immensely hated the Communists. That was why, he said, he had not studied communist literature nor was he acquainted with Communist terminology. The witness said he did not regard fair criticism of the Government a crime.

The summary of evidence recorded earlier stated that a raiding party recovered from a house in 'People's Colony, North Nazimabad, Karachi, copies of clandestine magazines, such as "Surkh Parcham" and "Halchal" on July 29, 1980.

Under one of the charges, the accused can be convicted up to life-imprisonment.

MAULANA NOORANI'S VIEWS CRITICIZED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 21 Jan 82 pp 13-14

[Text]

MRS. MUMTAZ NOORANI, President of Pakistan Democratic Women's Association, Karachi has, in a statement to the Press, condemned the fatwa of Maulana Shah Ahmed Noorani, implying that women are not eligible in an Islamic State for representation in a law making or consultative body (elected or nominated)

Mrs. Mumtaz Noorani stated that if women could participate in jihad, if Hazrat Ayesha was considered it enough for frequent consultations by the companions of the Holy Prophet, it cannot be declared that in an Islamic State women cannot be members of a legislative or consultative body.

Obviously, she continued, the Maulana's edict is a part of the prevailing trend in some quarters of our country to ensure the continuation of the present backward condition of half the population of Pakistan so as to impede national progress and also to perpetuate, under the garb of religion, the monopolistic domination of conservatives. Women are gradually becoming aware of their rights and the injustices done to them. Ignorance and conservatism will be ultimately repulsed, she declared.

PUNJAB'S NEW DIVISION, DISTRICTS FROM JULY 1

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 21 Jan 82 p 14

[Article by M. A. Kamran]

[Text]

THE creation of a new Division and six Districts in the Punjab is posing some problems like shortage of staff and accommodation for officers and offices.

Official sources told this correspondent that the Officers on Special Duty, appointed recently for the new Division and Districts, have been asked to go into the details of the requirements of staff and accommodation in their respective areas. These requirements will then be discussed at a high level meeting at Lahore some time this month.

It is understood that initially all the requirements will not be met and the staff will be drawn from the respective departments. But the officials did not rule out the possibility of making some fresh recruitments.

The new division of Gujranwala and the districts of Rajanpur, Khushab, Okara, Toba Tek Singh, Leis and Bhakkar will start functioning on July 1.

tioning on July 1.

The OSDs named for the Division and the districts will then formally take over as Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners, respectively. All these are new posts. With reorganization, the number of divisions will go up to six and that of districts to 27.

Meanwhile, the Board of Revenue has decided to add one more tehsil to new districts which comprise only one tehsil. This will be done in respect of at least four new districts as only Okara and Rajanpur consist of two tehsils each.

An official, when asked to spell out the requirements of the new Division and Districts, said that the requirements of Barani areas differed in many aspects from those of the irrigated areas. He said all these aspects have to be kept in mind when planning for staff, accommodation and other requirements.

CSO: 4220/222

SELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS CRITICIZED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 21 Jan 82 p 34

[Text]

JUST as the political parties had not given importance to "basic democracy" election under President Ayub's Martial Law, although this system of basic democracies was kept in force for nine/ten years, similarly under the present Martial Law a large number of politicians and defunct political parties have been proclaiming their disassociation with local bodies elections and the nominated Federal Council. According to most political and religious leaders, since the Majlis-i-Shoora or Federal Advisory Council does not represent the people its decisions cannot be binding on the nation...According to him (Maulana Fazlur Rehman) those nominated on the Majlis-i-Shoora include people who had lost in the

local body elections and who had been disqualified by the present regime. Yet, it is a fact that many members of the defunct political parties are sitting in the Federal Majlis-i-Shoora.

A deep study of the situation shows that there is the same kind of tussle between the military government and political parties as existed between the regime and the politicians in the days of President Ayub... "Maghrabi Pakistan" firmly subscribes to the view that only democracy and democratic institutions can bring strength to the country and the nation. But in the desecration of democratic institutions these "worshippers of democracy" are on the top of the list. — MAGHRABI PAKISTAN, Jan. 16.

CSO: 4220/222

IMPACT OF DELINKING OF RUPEE EXAMINED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 28 Jan 82 p 2

[Article by Ghulam Sarwar Khan]

[Text]

The persistent pressure of IMF and IBRD (World Bank) on the Government of Pakistan for the devaluation of Pak Rupee, as in some sense it was over-valued and was weakening since July, 1981 with the fluctuation of the value of US Dollar in the International Exchange Market.

Due to the prevailing situation the Government of Pakistan on 8th Jan. 1982 took decision to de-link Pakistan rupee with US dollar, which was pegged on 12th May, 1972, with the condition that the Dollar may continue to be intervention currency on "an active exchange rate basis" pegging it with the currency basket, i.e. International Currencies. It has been viewed, that the floatation of Pak rupee may be healthier sign to correct the chronic disequilibrium in the balance of payment with the stimulation of exports and to exercise check on the imports.

EXPORTS

On the exports side, the exporters will definitely have to receive more in local currency, if they export more. The exporters have already been initiated with the incentives of Rebate and Refinancing in exports. Besides the boosting up of our exports, we must consider the exogenous factors of elasticity of

demand and supply and the cost of production with the Net Margin. The extent of stimulus will depend both on foreign exchange elasticity of demand and the elasticity of supply from the rival exporting countries. If the rivals export supply is inelastic they will have to try to neutralize the effect of Pakistan floatation of its currency by applying a weapon of price cut of their own. As a matter of fact, the prices seem to be an important competitive strategy in the International Market. The rival exporting countries may stand at the time of recession in the International Market but our exporters, who are timid, can not take any stand with the motive to sell the goods of International standard at least margin price.

Besides this, the appreciation of the value of US dollar may further bring down the prices of our export items in International Market which can not at any cost be matched with the cost of Production.

In short, the delinking of Pak Rupee will ultimately be beneficial in encouraging exports of our country provided the cost of Production is kept within limit so as to enable it to compete successfully in the International Market. Secondly, the increased rate of Power, Electricity, Gas, Telex, Petroleum etc. will also reflect and affect the cost of Production at higher side.

IMPORTS

The delinking of Pak rupee

with US dollar will have unfavourable impact on the imports, which will ultimately become dearer. The importers will definitely have to pay more on the imported items especially the Raw Material and Finished Goods. The imported raw material used for the manufacturing of goods meant for export will have an extra burden on the cost of Production. The Import of Industrial Raw Material during the year 1980-81 has been recorded at 57.7 per cent of the total imports. On the other side the exports have already become cheaper and the margin will further be curtailed to such extent to save even margin of safety.

As a matter of fact, the import control, will have a check on in-essential imports but must not be allowed to impinge on essential imports of capital and consumer goods such as the latest technical equipments/machinery to stimulate our production with the minimisation of cost. The import of Consumer and Capital goods during the year 1980-81 has been accounted for @ 14.5 per cent and 27.8 per cent respectively of the total import. In short, the check on imports will further lead towards price hike in the home market with cost-push inflation as well as the rise in unit import price will not be helpful to correct unfavourable balance of payments. The relaxation in the import of goods for export-oriented industries may prove some improvement in the adversity of Balance of Payments. The prices of consumer goods, such as Tea, Milk,

Ata including power and supply (electricity, Gas Petroleum etc.) have been increasing fast due to check on Imports. The importers at the time of favourable US dollar condition will have a further burden on their imports if they are not allowed to build hedging with the forward exchange booking against the Imports.

HOME REMITTANCES

By the pegging of our currency with Currency Basket, the remittances will obviously have an increased in-flow. The in-flow through remittances during the year 1981 has been taken into account about \$ 1.4 to \$ 1.5 Billion. The depreciation rather devaluation of 2.2 per cent (as on the day of delinking) of Pak rupee, will further instate the remitters to remit more with the view to have more in home market. The illegal remittances will automatically be converted into legal means through Banking Channels which will have favourable impact on Balance of Payments as the remittances are expected to be raised upto \$ 1.8 to \$ 2.00 Billion. Besides this, the inflation will further be strengthened and the purchasing power parity will automatically have a contribution towards Price-Hike.

The utilization of Home Remittances has not been termed as "appropriate" as they are not utilized for productive purposes. Only 14 per cent of the total Remittance is being devoted towards the productivity of our country. Out of rest 68 per cent is being dumped-up in Real Estate and 18 per cent is employed on the luxurious items.

FOREIGN DEBTS & LOANS

With the delinking of Pak rupee with US dollar, our Debts and Loans will become costlier. The present total outstanding of our Debts are about \$ 8.00 to \$ 9.00 Billions for which we have to pay more at the fluctuating and floating Rate. The Industrial Loans will obviously have an adverse affect on the start-of production in the sick Industrial Units. The period and ratio of repayment will also be affected. The present utilization of our Industries, which is being operated at 40 to 60 per cent of their capacity will fur-

ther be slowed down. The expected in flow of \$ 5.7 Billion during the fifth five year plan had been expected to increase the operation of our Industrial sector which has now seemed to be on the feeble side. The effective receipts will be less.

CONCLUSION:

The floatation of currency or its devaluation can be considered a small support to our Balance of Payments Position or economy as a whole. The problem is to be tackled at the roots.

- 1) Efficient and greater production to enable larger exports at competitive prices.
- 2) Increase in Savings leading to capital formation.
- 3) Restrict imports of consumer goods to encourage home production.
- 4) Banning imports of Luxury Items like Motor Cars Cosmetics, Cloth of all type and any other items which are produced in the country.
- 5) Banning imports of Finished manufactured items which are produced in the country e.g. ships, Machinery for Textile, Cement and Sugar Mills.
- 6) Subsidies to all consumer good should be withdrawn and only given judiciously to Government control infra-structure items like Gas/Electricity.
- 7) Inflation should also be checked at least by reducing the prices of such items which are under monopoly of the Public sector like Ghee, Cement, Sugar, Gas, Electricity etc.
- 8) Investments by foreign and private sector to be encouraged with the incentive of Tax holidays.
- 9) Most careful use of Foreign Exchange whether loans and earnings by giving highest priority to those items which will lead to higher production.
- 10) Full capacity of production to be used where it is used partly and the sick Industrial Units to be started at their earliest.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS FOR ASGHAR KHAN

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 21 Jan 82 p 15

[Text]

FOLLOWING the police disallowing entry into Kissan Hall, the 61st birthday of Air Marshal (Rtd) Asghar Khan, Chief of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqal, was subsequently observed at the residence of Mian Mahmood Ali Kasuri.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Kasuri said that they had no intention of holding any meeting nor was there any programme of delivering speeches, but the authorities did not allow them to hold a simple function of eating sweets and having tea on the eve of the birthday of the Chief of defunct Tehrik. He said that the way the workers of Tehrik were banned to enter Kissan Hall was "humiliating and uncivilised." He said that Mr Asghar Khan had been under house arrest since 16th October, 1979 and except for five weeks' relaxation when he was freed during this, the total period of his detention was now two years and five months. Apart from Asghar Khan, Mian Sahib continued, Begum Bhutto was another political dignitary who had undergone a long period of detention from time to time. But such measure would not deter the "brave people" to speak and act truthfully

and according to their conscience, he remarked.

Malik Hamid Sarfraz, another leader of defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqal, dilated upon the happening which ultimately led to the abandonment of holding the birthday function at Kissan Hall. He said that in the morning of Sunday, a magistrate served him with a notice issued by the District Magistrate that the authorities had learnt through reliable sources that a "political meeting" was going to be held at the Kissan Hall which was prohibited under MLR 39 and 40. He tried to convince him that no political meeting was aimed at and only tea and sweets would be served, but the administration would not agree. Later in the afternoon, Kissan Hall was cordoned by the police checking everyone to enter. Thus having failed to hold the function in Kissan Hall, the birthday ceremony of Air Marshal (Rtd) was consequently shifted to Mian Mahmood Ali Kasuri's residence. Maulvi Ghulam Mohammad Hashmi also spoke on the occasion. Prominent poet Saif-ud-Din Saif recited a poem.

At another birthday ceremony held at Bansanwala Bazar, Begum Mehnaz Rafi distributed sweets among children and women.

ISLAMIC TECHNICAL CENTER PRAISED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 1 Feb 82 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text] It is heartening to note that the Dacca-based Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research is expected to start functioning next year. The step has been taken in the right direction as majority of the Muslim countries lag far behind in technical and scientific education. What is incumbent on the Muslim countries is to accelerate the pace of technical and scientific education among the students who really want to compete with the developed nations of the world. There is no denying that this is the time for giving more and more attention to science and technology without which no nation would be able to stand side by side with the scientifically and technologically advanced countries.

Although in the initial stage, the Islamic Center would admit about 1,150 students for three-year specialised courses in mechanical, electrical, chemical and telecommunications engineering, it can be hoped that from this meagre start, the Centre could grow bigger and will be able to meet the full requirements of the Muslim world. A sum of 23 million dollars was required to make the Centre fully operational. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait contributed one million dollars, each, while Bangladesh gave 600,000 dollars in cash and provided land worth 12 million dollars. In order to run the Centre efficiently, nearly three million dollars would be required annually. The annual expenditure as envisaged is not much in view of the fact when some of the Muslim countries, particularly countries in the Gulf, are in a position to contribute easily.

Apart from meeting the expenditure of the Centre, what is, however, urgently required is to pay special attention to the standard of training and to maintain it throughout. It is gratifying that the standard of training as promised would be higher than that at any other institution in Islamic countries, and certificates awarded would be recognised by all. It is also heartening that the Centre would function as a major 'teachers' training center. More and more attention need also to be given on the student-teacher relationship. Often it has been noticed that the lack of harmony between the student and the teacher has destroyed the objective of education.

The aim of the Centre, as defined, is to develop skilled workers at the base of the industrial structure. A study has revealed that in most of the Muslim countries the base worker was not sufficiently trained to grasp the changes in

technology. Thus, the aim, if fully worked out, would undoubtedly benefit all the students coming to the Centre from different Muslim countries.

The foundation-stone of the Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research, a 20-million dollar project of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, was laid in Dacca by the late Bangladesh President in March last year. Dr Habib Chatti, who specially came to Dacca for the ceremony, said the centre would produce technicians and experts to serve the Islamic world and contribute to the renaissance of the Ummah. He also pointed out that the Islamic world had to train its own men in the field of science and technology in the view of the way the non-Islamic countries were behaving in the matter of transfer of technology.

The observation made by Dr Chatti is timely. The establishment of the Centre in Dacca to meet the growing requirements of trained and skilled manpower in the entire Muslim world is a tangible manifestation of cooperation among the Islamic countries. So far as Pakistan is concerned, she has been laying much emphasis on scientific and technological education. While inaugurating a six-day seminar recently on "Islamisation of Knowledge" President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq rightly observed that Islam was not opposed to acquiring scientific knowledge, nor did any rivalry exist between the two. He also advised all Muslims to acquire knowledge in various disciplines of science as these helped to attain progress and advancement. He also made it clear that any scientific knowledge that led to better understanding of the marvels of universe and other gifts of God was not un-Islamic.

Thus Pakistan would contribute to the maximum in order to achieve the aims and objectives of the Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research.

CSO: 4220/235

COMMENTARY ON STUDENT POLITICS

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 14 Jan 82 pp 5-6

[Text]

THE PUNJAB Government's recent directive to the heads of all educational institutions, asking them to ensure that no political leader or other outsider is invited to student union meetings, should help to lessen political tension which has frequently led to clashes among rival student groups, sometimes involving the use of lethal weapons including fire-arms. Viewed realistically, the decision cannot be regarded as a restriction on civil liberties;

It is entirely appropriate that when limitations are imposed on students or any other section of the citizens, they should be made strictly applicable

If this can be achieved on the campuses in the Punjab and elsewhere, it should help greatly to improve the present unhappy situation.

Here, we would reiterate our firm view that students should not allow their organisations to become auxiliaries of any

political parties.

In the wider interests of the community, student organisations, and particularly college or university unions which represent the whole body of students, should be kept free of partisan politics. Not only is this a necessary preventive against political parties engaging in proxy battle through their student wings, but the status of students demands that they should, while giving attention to national problems, retain a measure of objectivity. The present step should help to foster an academic atmosphere and allow for the free exchange of views and opinions among students without inviting the pattern of politics that is considered necessary by many political parties. It should also assist the authorities in eliminating the cult of violence from our colleges and universities which not only takes a heavy annual toll of life and limb, but pollutes the atmosphere of our seats of learning and hinders both students and teachers from the performance of their primary functions.

COMMENTARY ON JOBS AND TRAINING

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 21 Jan 82 p 34

[Text]

ALTHOUGH there has been a great deal of talk about training people for jobs the crash programme resulted in the training of only 16,300 persons in four years ending 1980, and about 5,000 last year. The national vocational training project assisted by the World Bank and costing Rs. 431 million will train only 71,186 workers and 4,444 instructors in five long years. Hence the paucity of skilled workers either to export or to employ locally. Clearly far more has to be done for imparting training and at a low cost per worker. Indisputably more and more educated young men and women cannot find employment at home unless the economy expand. The economy cannot expand without larger investment. And there cannot be larger invest-

ment unless there are larger domestic savings. Private sector investors want tax relief and other assistance so that industries could save more and invest. Such concessions have not been forthcoming, while the public sector industries are not employing more staff as there is little expansion in this area. The problem of increasing unemployment of the educated in the country cannot be solved by perpetuating the present fiscal and monetary policies. There has to be a radical change. There has to be some dynamic thinking and positive action. Otherwise the deadlock or drift in the economic sector would continue and the increasing educated unemployment will present a serious threat to the prevailing socio-economic structure.—THE MUSLIM, Jan. 16

CSO: 4220/222

EXTENSIVE TRAINING OF MIGRANT WORKERS RECOMMENDED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 28 Jan 82 p 3

[Text]

An important study on emigration of Pakistani manpower to Middle East has recommended extensive training arrangements to ensure that future manpower requirement in the Middle East is fulfilled without jeopardizing local production and for amicable absorption of unskilled returning migrants when they wish to be absorbed in the domestic market.

The study while recommending further research regarding institutional framework for training showed that there was a high premium for skill acquisition at low cost and added that this should create a substantial supply of training institutions in the private sector.

The study carried out under the international migration projects of Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, was funded jointly by the World Bank, UNICEF and Pakistan Government and its summary was released at a news conference in Karachi yesterday by Dr. Ijaz Gilani. The report has already been submitted to the Pakistan Government.

ORIGINAL DATA

Described as the first empirically based research on the cost benefit of labour emigration, the report draws on original data collected by interviewing more than 15,000 statistically selected migrant workers and their families.

lies.

These migrant workers were interviewed at three international airports of Pakistan and a sub-sample of their families was traced to approximately 250 villages and 50 towns and cities, all over the country.

The study provides reliable estimates on the very essentials of policy making, like the number of Pakistanis working in the Middle East, the volume and pattern of remittances and the purposes for which they are used. The study also includes extensive data on a broad range of subjects dealing with emigration and migrant behaviour.

2 MILLION ABROAD

The study places the number of Pakistanis working in Middle East at approximately 1.25 million out of estimated 2 million Pakistanis working abroad. One half of the Pakistanis working in Middle East are skilled and trained and the other half is unskilled.

On the balance, the economy gains approximately Rs. 18 thousand per migrant per year of his stay abroad. This is considerably lower than his annual remittance (in cash and kind), which averages Rs. 31,603 a year.

Giving the occupation background of the migrant workers, the study said 43 per cent were unskilled, 41 per cent skilled, four per cent professionals and 12 per cent were clerical. There

are also certain regional variations in skill composition. The majority of workers from the Frontier Province (60 per cent) are unskilled, whereas only one-third of workers (34 per cent) from the Punjab and Sind are unskilled.

The majority of the migrants (75 per cent) searched their jobs by their own efforts or with the assistance of friends and relations abroad. The remaining 25 per cent said they obtained their job through the recruiting agent.

AVERAGE INCOME

The data collected during the study showed that the average income of a Pakistani immigrant working in the Middle East amounts to Rs. 58,500 a year. There are variations amongst various groups.

The average remittances of a Pakistani migrant worker in the Middle East amount to approximately Rs. 31,603 a year. An average of Rs. 21,273 are sent in cash, Rs. 7,693 are brought with them on a visit home and Rs. 2,637 remitted in kind.

Regarding the use of remittances, the data show that 62 per cent of the remittance money was consumed for household expenditure, including food, clothing and accommodation. Almost a quarter of the remittances received (22 per cent) were spent on real estate.—PPI.

TRAINING ACADEMY FOR JOURNALISTS

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 28 Jan 82 p 3

/Text/ Attock, Jan 27: Raja Mohammad Zafar-ul-Haq, federal information and broadcasting minister, has said the Federal Government will set up a training academy to provide training facilities to the journalist for reporting of specialized subjects.

He was addressing a reception hosted in his honor by the Attock Press Club in Jinnah Hall recently. The function was presided over by the President of Press Club, Mr Akbar Yousif Zai.

The Minister expressed his regrets that the students after passing their M.A. (Journalism) do not join the profession of journalism because newspapers do not provide more facilities to them.

He said that an international conference on the reporting of Agriculture will be held in Islamabad in March, which will be attended by the journalists from all over the world.

Specialized Reporting

The Minister said that there is great need that facilities should be provided to the journalists in the reporting of economics and other specialized subjects. He expressed his concern that there was not a single journalist in Pakistan, who could report on Defense. The Minister was critical of the reports appearing about his activities. He said the reports were not always correct.

Wages Board Award

Speaking about the Third Wage Board Award for newspapers' employees he said that a retired judge of the high court is working for the implementation of this Wage Board Award and under his supervision 75 percent work of implementation has been done. To complete the remaining work the services of this judge has been extended, he added. In this connection a special cell has been opened in the Information Ministry, Islamabad.

He said the Government will set up a high-powered booster PTV in Norowal, district Sialkot for the Indian viewers of PTV.

MINISTRY STATEMENT CLARIFIES ENERGY POSITION

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 25 Jan 82 p 6

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Jan. 24: The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources today clarified some misleading reports which have appeared in a section of the press regarding the energy scene.

In an official handout, the Ministry clarified the factual position in respect of the various issues raised in recent press reports, such as projected oil production, the gas supply and demand position, Dhodak gas condensate and Meval oil field development, import of deficit petroleum products and export of surplus petroleum products and POL specifications etc. as under:

Oil production: The actual average production of oil during 1980-81 was 9,826 barrels per day. The estimated production at the end of the current financial year is expected to reach 14,850 barrels per day by June, 1982 subject to successful completion of the wells being drilled/programmed. On the basis of the development programme in hand the production of indigenous oil is expected to increase to 17,689 barrels per day by June, 1983 and 24,300 barrels per day by June 1984. It will be totally incorrect to project indigenous oil production only at the level of 26,000 barrels per day by 1990 as it will largely depend on the success ratio of government exploration efforts which has increased manifold (26 wells were drilled during 1980-81 against an average of 6 wells per year). The objective of the government is to make the country self sufficient in oil by the end of this decade by attacking all the de-

lineated structures through all means including contract drilling or through joint ventures with foreign oil companies.

Due to rapid expansion in gas consumption which has increased from 150 billion cubic feet per annum to 263 billion cubic feet per annum during the last 4 years (which in terms of oil imports is equal to dollar 680 million per annum), the country is currently experiencing shortfall in respect of demand during the winter months in Punjab & NWFP while there is surplus capacity for 9-months in a year. These deficits are likely to persist. Additional gas to an extent of 72 MMCFD will become available from Pirkeh by November, 1983 which will increase to 160 MMCFD by 1985-86. The government is also arranging additional gas supplies from the existing fields at Sui and Mari. The exploitation of Dhodak gas condensate field has been delayed due to its complexities on account of the presence of retrograde condensate. However, two additional wells have been drilled to target depth and the third additional well is being drilled. A helicopter mounted seismic survey has been completed and a reservoir study by an internationally reputed firm has been finalised. The study reveals that the total gas reserves are less than 10 per cent of the Sui field and the government has decided to develop the field as condensate field with an initial condensate production of 2,500 barrels per day and reinjecting the gas production of liquid hydrocarbons.

The Meval oil field development is going according to sche-

dule and it will be totally incorrect to say that the alleged delay in the development is on account of government reluctance for giving correct prices to the operating company. The government was paying exactly the amount which the company has asked for. The companies' forecast of availability did not materialise which affected their cash flows.

For deficit oil imports the government has entered into a five-year contract ending 1985 with Kuwait Petroleum Company with a provision for a bi-annual price review in which the prices are negotiated on the basis of crude oil economics and the current market position. The contract besides ensuring security of supplies has contributed substantially in saving of foreign exchange since the prices negotiated are below the market prices.

The surplus naptha and fuel oil are being exported at very competitive prices. 100,000 tons of fuel oil is exported every quarter under a term contract at a price six dollar below the average Singapore posting which the freight between Karachi and Singapore is substantially higher than six dollar per ton.

The Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources appointed a committee comprising the Chairman, Hydrocarbon Development Institute of Pakistan and the Director-General, Energy Resources Cell to review the specifications of the petrol-

eum products with a view to maximizing the production of high speed diesel oil and kerosene oil and rationalising the specification of other products. The committee report was considered by the oil companies advisory committee and the important consumers such as WAPDA, KEBC, Railway and Defence. The refineries maintained that if the recommendations of the committee were accepted the production of high speed diesel oil and kerosene would have to be reduced which would mean increasing the import of these deficit products. The important consumers such as Railways and Defence were also not happy with the revision suggested by the committee. Consequently the recommendations of the committee have not been accepted and the efforts are being made to arrive on such specifications which would not inflate import bill of the country as well as satisfy the important consumers.

There cannot be any uniform formula controlling the lease of concession areas to foreign firms for oil and gas exploration since the prospective levels and the cost of exploration vary from area to area. The government, however, has a model concession agreement which is negotiated with the foreign concessionaries on the basis of the above factors. The government has given number of incentives which has induced several foreign oil companies including majors to seek petroleum concessions.—APP.

BIG DEMAND FOR PAKISTANI CURRENCY IN GULF REPORTED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 28 Jan 82 p 8

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Jan. 27: Pakistani currency is in great demand in some of the Gulf States particularly in Dubai and Abu-Dhabi because of a large profit on its conversion. Various gangs in Pakistan are presently making attempts to smuggle out the currency. A number of them are reported to have been arrested. The government, according to a reliable source has issued strict instructions to the relevant agencies to stop the outflow of currency.

Pakistani currency has always

been in great demand in Gulf States but its rate never went so high. In Dubai and Abu Dhabi it is getting 20 to 40 per cent profit.

The source told THE Muslim that many overseas Pakistanis returning home exchange dirham for rupee for a couple of reasons. First, those immigrants who hail from the far-flung areas being back Pakistani rupees mostly amounting to maximum 40,000 for the payment of customs duty for the declared items. Some exchange their savings in order to save time spent in visiting banks and fulfilling other

formalities.

But the current demand of Pakistani money is far greater. Informed sources attribute it to its purchase by the agents of some foreign powers with a view to distributing it among those elements in Pakistan who are indulging in anti-State activities.

The Customs Intelligence Wing arrested two persons at the Islamabad Airport attempting to smuggle out nearly one million rupees to Gulf in the second week of December.

CSO: 4220/236

NWFP MINISTER ON FACILITIES FOR INDUSTRIALISTS

Karachi DAWN in English 31 Jan 82 p 4

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Jan 30: Mr. Salim Saifullah Khan, Provincial Minister for Finance and Industries, on Thursday said that it was the policy of the Government to extend maximum facilities to the entrepreneurs to set up new industries in NWFP to create more employment opportunities.

He was addressing the Pakistan Papers and Chemicals Mazdoor Union of Charsadda Paper Mills, which was declared bargaining agent of the paper Mills after referendum.

He praised the efforts of the labour and the management for increasing the production of the Paper Mills to its 90 per cent capacity and said that it was a tribute to the labour force who had revived the Mills, considered to be a sick industry.

The Minister said industrial peace was essential for the rapid industrial development and noted that the labour unions of the industrial units in the province

had set a noble example of devotion to their duty through their peaceful behaviour which kept the industries working according to their capacity and schedule.

He said that in the past the Charsadda Paper Mills was working far behind its capacity which resulted in heavy losses. But now the production of the Mills had gone up to 90 tons a day which was a remarkable achievement. He said that the main reason of their achievement was due to the good relations between the labour union and the management.

The Minister said that like other spheres of our day-to-day life the industrial sector was also guided by Islamic principles and there was no reason why a judicious attitude should not be practiced by the management and workers in running the industries of the country.

CSO: 4220/232

RECRUITMENT IN PAKISTAN STEEL STOPPED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 31 Jan 82 p 5

[Text] The chairman Pakistan Steel Mr H. N. Akhtar said here yesterday that fresh recruitment in the organisation had been stopped and the retraining of the hands from construction side had been taken for their absorption in the operation side.

Talking to the APP the Chairman said that a stage had come now when the need was felt for the training of employees of the construction side so that their careers are properly planned for absorption in the operation of the mills.

To a question he said that there was no programme of any retrenchment--APP

PASLU's Concern

PPI adds: The office-bearers of the Pakistan Steel Labour Union (PASLU) have expressed the concern over the proposed retrenchment in the Pakistan Steel on a large scale.

In a statement issued here yesterday Mr Abdul Hakim, President and Mr Syed Omar Baqi, General Secretary of the PASLU respectively alleged that the Pakistan Steel administration was planning retrenchment of about 8,000 workers.

This step would destroy the industrial peace, they added.

They pointed out that recently certain circulars were issued and lists prepared which showed the intention of the administration.

They said on the one side the administration was planning retrenchment while on the other Directors and General managers were being appointed to increase the expenditure.

They further said that three units, Steel Making Plant Complex, Hot Rolling Mills, and Oxygen Plant were being commissioned in July this year and if there was any surplus manpower it would be diverted to these units.

CSO: 4220/235

BRIEFS

SHAHI'S RESIGNATION REFUTED--Lahore, Jan 26--Defence Minister Mir Ali Ahmed Khan Talpur has refuted the reports appearing in some Indian newspapers regarding Mr Agha Shahi's resignation, reports a Lahore daily. Mr Talpur said that at this stage of Indo-Pakistan relations Indian newspapers should avoid publishing such material. An Urdu-English periodical of India, BLITZ, has carried a report that Mr Agha Shahi had resigned.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 28 Jan 82 p 12]

NEXT COUNCIL SESSION TO CONSIDER POLITICS--Hyderabad, Jan 27--Revival of political activities in the country would be considered in the next session of the Federal Council, said Mr Zahoorul Hassan Bhopali, member, Federal Council. Talking to newsmen at the local Circuit House, he said ban on political activities had provided a base to anti-State elements who were creating dissension against the Government and between various groups of people.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 28 Jan 82 p 12]

SOVIET ARMS--Lahore, Jan 27--Nawab Akbar Bugti, former governor of Baluchistan, has said that he does not want to make any disclosure about arms found in the Iraqi Embassy a few years back, as Russian arms were even now being brought into the country in huge quantity, reports a Lahore Urdu daily. He was asked as to when would he make his promised disclosure about the arms found in the Iraqi Embassy. He said now there was no need to make a disclosure as arms were even now being brought into the country. Talking to PPI at the residence of Mian Mahmud Ali Kasuri on Wednesday, Mr Bugti said that the 1973 Constitution should be restored to its original shape or it should be discarded altogether and a new constitution should be framed giving "provincial autonomy" to provinces. Answering a question, the former Governor of Baluchistan said that the actual problem confronting the country was transfer of power to elected representatives of the people. Asked about the impact on Baluchs of Soviet threat to his province, he said Baluchs were completely satisfied and they were not afraid of what he termed Soviet knocks to Baluchistan.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 28 Jan 82 p 12]

MAJOR OIL, GAS PRODUCER--Lahore, Jan 31--The Dhodak oil and gas fields in Dera Ghazi Khan district are expected to be major producers of condensate and gas in that region, it is learnt. This is for the first time that outside Potwar Plateau in the North, oil and gas have been struck in sizeable quantities. Oil reserves are being tested at Dhodak fields. Production testing has been successfully completed in three wells drilled so far by the Oil and Gas Development Corporation and the fourth one will be drilled soon. After the fourth well is drilled, the final appraisal will be made about the total reserves of oil. The Dhodak discovery was first announced in December 1976. The Potwar oil fields

are producing more than 10,000 barrels of crude per day which is only 12 per cent of the total requirements of Pakistan. A Pakistani team of three officials has held negotiations with the World Bank in Washington in 1980 for assistance for development of gas fields at Dhodak and for laying the pipeline network in the Northern areas.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Feb 82 p 9]

FREEDOM FOR PRESS DEMANDED--Mr Minhaj Barna, Chairman of All-Pakistan Newspaper Employees Confederation (APNEC), and Mr Nisar Osmani, President of Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ), have in a joint statement urged the Government to withdraw censorship in all forms and fully ensure freedom of the Press and expression. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 21 Jan 82 p 13]

PLEA FOR STAY REJECTED--The Home Department, Sind, rejected an application of Mr Yahya Bakhtiar, former Attorney General of Pakistan, asking for permission to stay in Karachi till January 15. Mr Yahya Bakhtiar, who is barred from entering into the Sind province for three months, came here on special permission by the Government to attend the Sind High Court reference for the late Justice Hamoodur Rehman. On January 11, Mr Yahya Bakhtiar appealed to the Home Department to extend his stay till Jan. 15 as he wanted to consult his physician. The Home Department rejected the appeal without mentioning any reason. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 21 Jan 82 p 14]

NOORANI'S TRAVEL PLEA REJECTED--The Government has refused permission to Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani, head of the World Islamic Mission and President of the defunct Jamiat-Ulema-i-Pakistan, for travelling abroad. He wanted to attend Seerat Conference at Hyderabad and later to visit Europe. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 21 Jan 82 p 14]

LEAGUE LEADER PRAISED--There was so much of propaganda before the inaugural session of the Majlis-i-Shoora that the news of inauguration lost its freshness. But by preventing his son from going into the Federal Council at the last minute, Ch. Mohammad Hussain Chattha made such an unexpected news that the news about the Majlis-i-Shoora also acquired life. And people started saying that that Majlis-i-Shoora had been inaugurated in which Chaudhry Sahib stopped his son from participating. Call it Chaudhry Sahib's long political experience or something else, he carried away this political 'mushaira' of Islamabad while sitting in a closed room of Chattha House in Sheikhpura. This senior leader may have done much in the history of Pakistan and Muslim League but this senior Muslim Leaguer has won the day in the political field for the first time, and by lighting the candle of political steadfastness and wisdom with his old and trembling hands, he has set an un-Muslim-League tradition--Abdul Qadir Hasan, 'Ghair Siyasi Baten', NAWA-I-WAQT, Jan. 15. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 21 Jan 82 p 34]

NO INDIAN POW'S--New Delhi, Jan 27--The government of Pakistan has informed India that there were no Indian prisoners of war in their custody. A Pakistan embassy release here said that all the POWs taken in the 1971 war were repatriated by Pakistan in 1972 and 1973. The Government conducted repeated searches in jails on the basis of information provided by the relatives of the missing persons, but none of the persons was found in any jail of the country. [as published] It said the International Committee of the Red Cross was also given facilities to conduct investigations of jails in Pakistan, but no missing servicemen were found there. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 28 Jan 82 p 1]

KASURI, OTHERS BOOKED--Lahore, Jan 27--Mian Mahmud Ali Kasuri, acting President, Defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal; Mr Rashid Qureshi, Manzur Ahmed Watoo and Begum Hamid Sarfraz were booked on Tuesday under MLO 13/33 by the Gulberg police. They are alleged to have made objectionable speeches at 103/J, Gulberg. All of them were there in connection with a ceremony arranged to celebrate the birthday of Air Marshal (retd) Asghar Khan. No arrest has been made so far.--PPI. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 28 Jan 82 p 1]

BIZENJO PROHIBITED FROM PUNJAB--Lahore, Jan 27--Mr Ghaus Bakhah Bizenjo, President, defunct Pakistan National Party, has been externed from the Punjab for a period of 90 days. The order was served on him on Wednesday morning when he was at the residence of Mr Qaswar Gardezi, defunct PNP Secretary-General, in Gulberg. Mr Bizenjo was taken to Lahore airport to be flown to Quetta, but the flight was cancelled due to weather conditions. He was subsequently brought back to Mr Gardezi's residence. PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 28 Jan 82 p 1]

NUSRAT BHUTTO TO VISIT MOSCOW--Karachi, 21 January--According to a report, the Soviet Union has invited Nusrat Bhutto to visit Moscow. Mrs Bhutto has accepted the invitation on the condition that if circumstances allow she would like to visit Moscow, London, Libya and the Gulf states as well. It has been revealed that Mrs Bhutto is making preparations for a visit abroad. According to another report, her two sons are in Moscow. According to a Reuters report Mrs Bhutto has let it be known that if her party comes into power she will order all Afghan Mujahidin out of the country and will accept the government of Babrak Karmal. [Text] [GF281925 Lahore JANG in Urdu 22 Jan 82 p 1]

BADIN OIL WELLS--Badin, 19 January (APP/PPI)--Federal Minister for Petroleum (Retd) Maj Gen Rao Farman Ali has said that the oil from the three local wells will be available in the local market for commercial purposes by next April. He was speaking to newsmen after an inspection of the three oil wells. He said: At present, the wells are producing 2,000 barrels and a fourth well is being drilled, after which a fifth well will be dug. The oil from these wells will be sent to the Karachi oil refineries some time next month. In these initial stages it is not economically possible to convey the unrefined oil to Karachi by pipelines, but the national logistics cell has agreed to take it by means of tankers to Karachi. He continued: The oil from these wells is of the same standard as Saudi raw petroleum and we hope that other countries will be willing to drill for oil in other parts of the country. He said: In the south it is much cheaper to drill for oil than in the north. He further stated: Pakistan is in the same zone as Saudi Arabia because 6 million years ago there was no sign of the Himalaya Mountains. [Excerpts] [GF281856 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 20 January 82 p 6]

NOTE SIGNED WITH FOREIGN FIRM--A note of understanding was signed in Islamabad today under which Pakistani and foreign firms under a joint program will carry out drilling work for oil and gas exploration over an area of more than 400 square miles in Attock and Rawalpindi districts. Under the agreements, oil and gas development corporation, Attock Oil Company, Pakistan oilfields and a foreign company have been granted oil and gas exploration and drilling rights for 4 years in northern (Potokhar) region. Under the agreement, the foreign company will conduct a geological survey of the region and drill two deep wells for the exploration of oil and gas. Under the joint program, the firms will make a minimum investment of \$19 million for exploration surveys and drilling work. [Text] [BK311629 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 31 Jan 82]

DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES--UAE Defense Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn Rashid al-Maktum arrived in Karachi this afternoon from Dubayy on a brief visit to Pakistan. [Text] [BK301530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Jan 82]

RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON BHUTTO, OTHERS--Karachi, 23 January--The news that the BBC broadcast this evening regarding Mumtaz Bhutto, Makhdum Khaliquzzaman and Shah Ahmad Amroti is utterly false and baseless. Clarifying the BBC report, the provincial home secretary has announced that the movements of the named three persons have been restricted to within their respective districts. They are certainly not under house detention and have the complete freedom to move within their respective districts. However, they are not allowed to leave their districts. [Text] [GF281931 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 24 Jan 82 p 1]

SOVIET AID FOR PROJECT--Islamabad--President Ziaul Haq will shortly lay the foundation stone for a tractor making factory in Pakistan, to be set up with Soviet assistance, Iftikhar Ali, Pakistan's ambassador in Moscow, said here on Saturday. Appearing in a panel discussion on Pakistan television, he said this would be a major Soviet aided project in Pakistan after the Karachi Steel Mills project, which had now entered its second phase. Mr Iftikhar Ali made the point that despite sharp differences over the Afghanistan question, the two countries were keen to maintain their excellent relations in the economic field. The biggest proof of this, according to him, was the fact that the Soviet assistance for the huge steel mills complex continued to pour in as usual. "It is important to note that political differences have not affected the economic relationship between the two countries," he said. The Soviet Union has also helped Pakistan in the power sector and also in the oil and gas exploration field. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 18 Jan 82 p 2]

PLAY IN SIX LANGUAGES--Quetta, Jan 19--The popular Pakistan Television's Urdu play, "Panah" produced by Mr Schehzad Khalil of Karachi TV about the plight of Afghan refugees is to be dubbed in as many as seven languages, it is learnt here. The PTV authorities have been seriously considering to dub the play into English, French, German, Arabic, Persian and Pasho for their worldwide sale. The proposal if approved would help earn foreign exchange besides good deal of reputation for the country & the PTV. The Play, participated by the top TV stars Uzma Gilani and Talat Hussain was telecast twice by PTV on public request. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 20 Jan 82 p 4]

NATIONAL URBANIZATION POLICY--Islamabad, Jan 20--The Government is endeavoring not only to formulate a National Urbanisation Policy for stopping rapid rate of urbanisation but also devising modalities to provide basic amenities in smaller towns and rural villages of the country. This was stated by the Federal Minister for Housing and Works Marshal Inamul Haque Khan during a meeting with Dr Professor Richardson, a World Bank Expert in Islamabad yesterday. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 21 Jan 82 p 1]

BALUCHISTAN EMPLOYMENT PROJECT--Quetta, Jan 20--In Quetta work on a project to provide gainful employment for Mustahqeen of Zakat has begun. Initially half million rupees had been sanctioned for the project Under this project Mustahqeen of Zakat will be given necessary vocational training. At the end of the training they would be employed in such vocations as are commensurate with their professional skills. Meanwhile, Training Centres are being setup at different District Headquarters Province under a plan for economic rehabilitation of Mustahqeen of Zakat. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 21 Jan 82 p 1]

PARTY LEADER RETURNING--Quetta, Jan 24--The Chief of Defunct Masawat Party, Mr Mohammad Hanif Ramay who has been staying in the United States since long, is now expected to return home shortly. The Party sources have said that he is in touch with his Party Members about the development at home but at the time has advised them to keep aloof from taking any practical steps (in politicking.) Meanwhile the ex-Senator and a leader of Defunct Maswat Party, Mr Zamarud Hus-sain, has left for Karachi and from there will proceed to Lahore. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 25 Jan 82 p 4]

SIND RURAL AREAS INDUSTRIALIZATION--The Government of Sind is setting up mechanised training centre at Ghotki at a total cost of Rs 1.40 million to impart training in six vital trades, says a handout issued in Karachi yesterday. To begin with, 100 trainees mostly from rural areas will receive training on stipendiary basis, which will open new vistas of progress for the educated youth from the villages. The main trades include farm machinery maintenance, autocyycle repairing, carpentry, electric wiring, welding and machine shop operation. To accelerate the pace of progress through the process of industrialisation at micro-level, the Sind Small Industries Corporation has set up three carpet centres: one each at Pano Akil (boys), Ghotki and Mirpur Mathelo (girls). These centres will impart training to 57 trainees including 38 girls, on stipendiary basis. The corporation has also established small industrial estate at Sukkur, which has 35 units of manufacturing variety which include cement-pipes, cotton waste cleaning, oil expelling, flour milling, plastic products, light engineering, poultry products and distemper. A well-equipped welding training centre will shortly be established at Sukkur at a total cost of Rs 0.307 million for providing training to 40 persons in a year. [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 25 Jan 82 p 1]

FRUIT PRODUCTION IN BALUCHISTAN--Quetta, Jan 30--Thirtytwo thousand three hundred and sixty two hacters of land have been brought under fruit cultivation in Baluchistan to produce 305000 tonnes of various types of fruit valued at Rs 1526 million during the coming fruit season. It follows timely rains and snow plus generous government facilities and incentives given to the fruit farmers. During the corresponding period last year the area under fruit was 31,360 hacters. The production during the same period was 2,77,000 tonnes of various types of fruit valued at Rs 1387 million.--APP [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 31 Jan 82 p 2]

OFFICIAL REPORTS MISSING TAXES--Wazirabad, Jan 24--Sh Ishrat Ali, Adviser to President on Internal Trade and Business Coordination, disclosed today that Rs 600 million recovered by the former Government as taxes from the people were untraced and the official files were silent altogether as to where these were spent. He was speaking at a convention of Lahore Division traders and industrialists held here today. Sh. Ishrat Ali alleged that the previous regime, through its policy of nationalisation, had created a state of uncertainty in the country and the people stopped investing in industrial projects. This worsened the economic conditions of the country, stagnating the industrial progress, he maintained. Sh. Ishrat Ali called upon industrialists to supplement the efforts of the Government which it was rendering to improve the economic conditions of the country and said major hurdles had already been overcome in this respect. He said the industrialists were justified in demanding certain facilities from the Government but they should keep in mind their obligations. They should not evade tax, he added. He assured the traders and industrialists that the Government would take all measures to solve their problems.--PPI [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 25 Jan 82 p 1]

DRAFT FOR WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY--Lahore, Jan 30--The Federal Ministry of Education has prepared a Draft Act on the would be women University which the Ministry of Law is setting learns APP. The source further said that the Women University will be set up in Lahore College for Women which already holds classes in six master degrees and more will be added soon after draft act is finally approved by the Majlis-e-Shoora as desired by the Law. Similarly some colleges at Karachi Islamabad and NWFP will be developed for constituting the University--APP.
[Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 31 Jan 82 p 1]

CSO: 4220/235

BRIEFS

POLICE ARREST SECESSIONIST SUSPECTS--Colombo, 28 Jan (AFP)--Police have arrested two young men suspected of being members of a militant Tamil secessionist movement seeking to set up a separate Tamil state in northern Sri Lanka. The two, whose identities were not revealed, were carrying firearms stolen last year from the police in Jaffna, the northern capital, police sources said. "The two men now in custody have been close to some of the most wanted terrorists," a security official said today. One of the men carried a repeater shot gun stolen after an attack on a northern police station last July when two policemen were shot dead. The attackers stole arms, including sten guns, and ammunition. Police said that the second man was armed with a revolver which belonged to a police sergeant who was shot dead last May while covering a meeting of the Tamil United Liberation Front, which is also seeking a separate Tamil state. Another policeman wounded in that incident died later. Investigators believed that the two had belonged to a five-man gang which robbed a house of 300,000 rupees (about 15,000 dollars) in jewellery and cash last week. Security services today began combing some 20 square miles of farmland in the north in search of the rest of the gang which they believe is still in the area. [Text] [BK281205 Hong Kong AFP in English 0823 GMT 28 Jan 82]

DOUBLE TAXATION AVOIDANCE ACCORD SIGNED--An agreement for the avoidance of double taxation was signed in Colombo yesterday between Sri Lanka and Yugoslavia. The agreement was signed by the commissioner general of inland revenue and the Yugoslav ambassador. [Text] [BK301211 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Jan 82]

CSO: 4220/220

EDITORIAL DECRIES POLITICAL PARTIES TIMIDITY

BK021135 Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 30 Dec 81 p 2

[Editorial: "Political Parties' Stands"]

[Text] The Prem Government has overcome another political crisis now that the Democrat Party has successfully, though strenuously, settled its internal conflict over the nomination of its members for portfolios in the Prem-3 cabinet, the party's initial actions in this regard having violated its constitution. In its latest meeting, during which some members called for a new nomination list, the party had to ask senior members like M.R. Seni Pramot and Khunying Lekha Aphaiwong to help settle the conflict.

However, it is likely that the conflict has already become a permanent scar on the party, although the violation of the party's constitution was ratified by a vote of 11 to 10, with Democrat leader Thanat Khoman voting for it. Since this matter will have an effect on people throughout the country, the rift among party members will not be healed easily. The party will have to readjust its concept, line of activities and even its structure and manner of participation in the government.

Meanwhile, the Social Action Party faced a similar problem, which has forced a high-level member like Bunchu Rotchanasathian and other MP's from the northeastern region, who were not included in the new cabinet, to resign. The party leader, M.R. Khukrit Pramot, and his deputies attempted to postpone the party's monthly meeting so that they would have time to readjust the party's mechanism as proposed by some members.

What happened within the political parties reveals the fact that they dare not oppose any wrongful government act. For instance, they failed to call for a no confidence vote against the government when the latter extended the term of the former army commander, despite the fact that such an action could adversely affect the country. It is obvious that these political parties are unable to defend the people's interest.

The weakness of the political parties can be attributed to the fear of the dictatorial influence which always threatens "to overturn the chessboard." Leaflets, threats, rumors and even statements by government VIP's on the possibility of a coup d'etat are always rampant whenever political parties are in trouble.

If all members of the parliament are determined to fulfill the duties assigned to them by the people, they cannot let the dictatorial influence dominate them. They must tell the people the truth and lead the people to struggle for democracy through to the end.

CSO: 4207/48

REAGAN'S 'STATE OF THE UNION' SPEECH NOTED

BK280450 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 28 Jan 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Brave Actions Must Follow Brave Words"--passages in slantlines denote italics as published]

[Text] /Our foreign policy is a policy of strength, fairness and balance. By restoring America's military credibility, by pursuing peace at the negotiating table wherever both sides are willing to sit down in good faith, and by regaining the respect of America's allies and adversaries alike, we have strengthened our country's position as a force for peace and progress in the world./--Ronald Reagan

Brave words. But we must remember that when U.S. President Ronald Reagan spoke those words he was delivering a "state of the union" message to Congress and was not essentially talking about American foreign policy, except /en passant./ However, it is neither our intention nor is it within our capacity to discuss the "new federalism" which he expounded. Our interest is, naturally, primarily in Southeast Asia and to some extent in this part of the world which could be defined somewhat loosely as Western Asia.

From that point of view we are really surprised that Reagan has not referred to Southeast Asia, where he should know a war is going on, nor has he referred to China, which has been taking a very tough stance /vis-a-vis/ American policy toward Taiwan. If Supreme Commander Saiyut Koetphon's speech on Monday was understood correctly, there is no question that a proxy war is going on in Southeast Asia and we would like to know what the 'policy of strength' of the United States is. It has been publicized with all the hoopla of the communications media how much congressional appropriations Reagan has managed to acquire in order to boost American military strength.

So what? Where has this fantastic military strength been applied? And what has been the result when this was applied? No, we will not go back to the Vietnam war nor further back to World War II. We will just stick to what is happening right now and how the Soviet Union has been winning round after round with a /carte blanche/ no other nation has had since Alexander the Great or Genghis Khan. Africa, Latin America, Middle East or Asia--or to be more specific Ethiopia, El Salvador, South Yemen and Afghanistan, not to mention Kampuchea--are Moscow's playgrounds and to the wide-open ears in Bangkok at least, the American 'policy of strength' sounds like the boast of a drunken sheriff in a western movie.

Again let us make it very clear that Reagan was talking about the 'state of the union' and we have to understand that it is quite proper for him to throw around a few hyperboles where foreign policy is concerned--they sound very good when there are problems about the economic programme he has instituted domestically. But in the extract from his speech which we have quoted above, Reagan seems to have anticipated the criticism which we have levelled.

Reagan has stated that one facet of the U.S. foreign policy is "regaining the respect of America's allies and adversaries alike." This shows clearly that something has been happening to America's "respect" in such a way, that it has to be "regained." But again, we would like to raise our modest voice and say that it is more essential for the U.S. to "regain" the respect of its allies than that of its adversaries.

CSO: 4220/229

THAILAND

'POST' INTERVIEWS AMBASSADOR TO U.S.

BK111240 Bangkok POST in English 10 Jan 82 pp 7-8

[Interview given by Thai Ambassador to the United States Prok Amaranan to Sunissa Hancock in "Lunchbreak" column--date not given]

[Text] Question: Mr Prok, you are probably well aware of the fact that in recent years Thailand has become more conscious of its image in the eyes of other countries. What kind of an image would you say Thailand has in the U.S.?

Answer: Good. Surprisingly good. Thailand is popular in Congress and with the Reagan administration as well, though I must admit that where the general American public is concerned, there is still some confusion between Thailand and Taiwan. The fact that we do have a good image, however, doesn't mean that we can just sit back and leave it at that, otherwise this will be eroded, for there are both direct and indirect attacks against us constantly.

The direct attacks are well organised by unfriendly countries which have a wide propaganda network. They have experience and contacts at the UN, the administration and Congress as well as with the media and the populace. It is noticeable that from time to time, there are waves of attacks against us, and though this propaganda might be disbelieved at first, people do tend to believe some of it after a while. Where the indirect attacks are concerned, these usually come from people who think that Thailand's popularity with Congress or the administration will mean that they will receive a smaller piece of the pie. They think that if the U.S. is less interested in us, then they will stand to gain more. It is these things that we have to watch for and counter if we are to maintain our good standing in the U.S.

Question: But what of our coups d'etat, our frequent changes of government? How does this affect the credibility of the country?

Answer: Where the administration and Congress are concerned, I don't believe that there is any real concern over this. They know that despite the changes the elements of continuity are still there. There is an overlapping of personalities and most important of all, the key civil servants are still in place so that there is no drastic change in policies. My belief is that they regard our changes here very much in the light of the changing of the guards. It's still the same regiment after all. In fact, when there are no changes for some time, people start asking what is

wrong, for most of the people I am in touch with accept that coups d'etat and changes of government are our way of life.

Question: You have, I understand, been meeting with bankers and business leaders as well. Are their views equally sanguine?

Answer: U.S. businessmen who have a real interest in doing business in Thailand know well what the actual situation is like in Thailand and none have any real concern when they hear of coups d'etat or changes in the administration here. They don't make any major decisions without a thorough analysis of all available information and they certainly don't base their analysis just on newspaper reports of what is or what is not happening here. We tend to get too excited over such things as that Frost and Sullivan report, for the bankers I met indicated that they certainly do not go by such things alone in deciding whether or not Thailand is a good credit risk. They have their own reports and sources of information after all.

Question: If I remember correctly, there was some talk a few years back of Thailand employing a U.S. company to handle such things as lobbying and public relations for us in America. I'm not quite sure why nothing came of this, but do you think that we could benefit from employing professionals in this business?

Answer: It would certainly be useful, for there are some things that we can't do by ourselves. After all, for us to say how good we are would not have half the impact of someone else saying it. Thailand has a lot to sell and these things have to be sold to different target areas--Congress, the media, the business community, the general populace and so on. We can do some of this, but it certainly wouldn't hurt--and it would be helpful--if these efforts were supplemented by those of professionals in the business. It's not that these companies necessarily have better contacts than we do, but they have ways and means of doing things which are often not open to us since we have to observe diplomatic protocol.

It would be a good idea though to employ somebody in this field for lobbying is now a big industry, especially in Washington for all the decision-making apparatus is there. I have been approached by some people who are interested in representing us and who have quoted very competitive prices too.

Question: I understand that you yourself have been closely involved in trying to promote Thailand at the grass-roots level in the U.S. and were in fact one of the founding members of the Friends of Thailand Organisation in that country. How did this come about, and what is the purpose of this organisation?

Answer: The Friends of Thailand is a non-profitmaking organisation set up just a few months ago with the objective of promoting relations between Thailand and the U.S. through cultural exchanges, educational activities and so on. It is open to all, and though there is only the one group in Washington right now, our aim is to have branches of this organisation in as many communities in the U.S. as possible. This organisation also encourages and coordinates activities of similar organisations, Thai groups and associations in the U.S., so that Thailand can be better known among Americans. Incidentally, this organisation is completely independent of the Thai Embassy and has Dr George Tanham, vice president of the Rand Corporation as its president.

Question: But what led to the formation of this organisation in the first place?

Answer: When I took up my appointment as Thai ambassador to Washington in the middle of 1980, there were reports of Vietnamese incursions into Thailand at that time. As a result, I received numerous telephone calls from Americans from all walks of life who wanted to express their sympathy and who asked if there was anything at all they could do to help. This made me realise that Thailand had many friends and was in fact more popular than I had expected, so the next question was how best could we utilise these people? They wanted to help but in the past we had never called on them. These people are those who have lived here and loved the country, ex-diplomats, ex-Peace Corps volunteers, [those] who visited Thailand on R & R, the very large Thai community in the U.S. and so on. Many of the Americans are now highly placed, and all, no matter what their jobs or where they live, can act as ambassadors for Thailand. Meeting and talking to them at once yearly cocktail receptions or parties is not sufficient or very productive, and gradually the idea of forming a Friends of Thailand Organisation grew. The idea behind it of course, is to make Thailand more visible at all levels in America and the Rattanakosin bicentennial is serving as a focus point for the organisation this year. The formation of this organisation is a starting point anyway in our efforts to make Thailand better known throughout the U.S.

Question: What would you say was the general impact of Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon's visit to the U.S. last year?

Answer: In the general sense, there was a great impact for it allowed personal contact between Prime Minister Prem and President Reagan as well as between the Thai ministers and high-ranking American officials. The Americans had heard of General Prem and they knew his record for being "clean," but the personal contact was important for they were able to gauge his sincerity and genuine friendship for Americans for themselves. From the political point of view, the meetings and negotiations between various Thai ministers and American officials on military and security matters made the Americans realise that Thailand is indeed a frontline state and also that we are fast and close allies of the U.S.

As for the economic impact of the visit, American businessmen who are already doing business in Thailand as well as those contemplating doing so, had the opportunity to meet the country's top policy-makers, to question them and to clarify any misunderstandings they might have had. The prime minister also gave them his personal assurance that free enterprise and the market system would be upheld in Thailand, for this was something that has worked well for Thailand in the past. These meetings, I believe, instilled a new sense of confidence in the American investors. It cleared the air as to what this country's policies are, the decision-making process here and so on. There were better communications, and I believe that the American businessmen who met the prime minister's party appreciated the problems faced by our country.

Of course it is not possible to say just how much new investment will follow as a result of the visit, but I believe that a more favourable atmosphere was created so that U.S. businessmen who might have thought of switching their investment from Thailand to some other country won't do so anymore. Without these meetings,

attitudes which are now friendly or even indifferent could well have become negative. It is this re-enforcement of positive feelings towards Thailand that I regard as being a major achievement of the visit.

Question: I understand that agricultural matters figured prominently in the talks held in America. What would you say was the most significant outcome of this?

Answer: The major breakthrough reached by Dr Anat (former Agriculture Minister Dr Anat Aphaphirom) was the agreement that regular, high level consultations on agricultural production, marketing and technology matters would be held between Thailand and the United States. We've never done this before and, considering that Thailand and the U.S. are the two biggest exporters of rice, we should really have closer cooperation.

It's not that we want to fix prices or form a cartel, but rather to cooperate in such a way as to avoid unhealthy and cut-throat competition if possible. More stability in the trade will also mean more benefits for the consumers as well as the producers.

Question: What follow-up has there been since the visit on this and other matters?

Answer: Well, the cabinet has already approved the setting up of an agricultural counsellor office in Washington this year. It has also been agreed that the commercial counsellor's office will move from New York to Washington so as to work in close cooperation with our financial counsellor who is already there. This will enable us to have better dialogues with decision-makers in Washington. Doing this, however, doesn't mean that we will be weakening the New York operations in any way, for the trade centre there will continue to deal with trade matters and any actual buying and selling. I have also met the U.S. under-secretary of the treasury since the prime minister's visit to discuss the pending bilateral tax treaty between Thailand and the U.S. This has been negotiated for about 16 years now but has still not been ratified by the U.S. Congress--possibly because it was not the previous administrations' policy to encourage U.S. investment overseas. As a result, American investors were given no special incentives. With the Reagan administration now trying to make better use of the private sector to promote economic relations--especially with the Third World countries--I am hoping that this pending tax treaty will be reviewed and ratified. If this does happen, then U.S. investors in Thailand will no longer be at a disadvantage compared to other foreign investors here and this could lead to further U.S. investment in this country. I've also been in touch with the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on this matter and I am optimistic that something can be worked out.

Question: I believe that the bilateral treaty on textiles that we have with the U.S. will expire at the end of this year. Has work on the negotiations for the new treaty begun yet?

Answer: The negotiations which will start soon, will be under the framework of the multi-fibre agreement which was reached in Geneva recently. However, it is a little early to say just what we are looking for in the way of specific quotas. I have informed the people who will be participating in these negotiations, however, that they can be assured of my support in their negotiations, for though previous

Thai Ambassadors to Washington tended to concentrate on the political side of things, it is my policy to give political leadership to all economic negotiations as well. This way, our negotiators can reach higher levels as well as the working levels.

Question: One last question, Mr Prok. From your meetings with business leaders in the U.S. how concerned would you say they are about the border situation in this country? Is this a deterrent to their investing here?

Answer: Where businessmen are concerned, there does not seem to be any grave fears about this for most of them understand the situation very well. This doesn't mean that we can afford to be compacent about it, however, and we have to keep on making efforts to assure the Americans that investing in Thailand is as good as investing anywhere else--if not better. Where tourists are concerned, however, any newspaper reports of border incidents do frighten them and make them reluctant to visit Thailand. Our tourist offices in Los Angeles and New York are working very hard to offset any bad images, not only by press releases and so on, but also by other promotional activities such as bringing American travel writers to Thailand so that they can see the true situation for themselves. I believe that the bicentennial celebrations this year will be a good opportunity to attract even more tourists here. Those who do take this opportunity to visit Thailand will then be able to tell others in turn about this country.

Thank you Mr Prok.

CSQ: 4220/229

COLUMNIST OPPOSES FOLLOWING U.S. GRAIN BOYCOTT OF USSR

BK011058 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 31 Jan 82 p 8

[Business column: "The United States and Thailand--Friends Only in Adversity"]

[Text] The future of Thailand's abundant harvest in the 1981-1982 cultivating season will also be determined by the curious situation in Poland.

The United States has announced that it will resort to a grain boycott against the Soviet Union if the latter uses its troops to settle the conflict between the military and the laborers in Poland. Canada, trailing after the United States, has also threatened to use the same measure against the Soviet Union. A grain boycott was once before used against the Soviet Union--when it sent its troops in to topple the Afghan Government in 1979--which forced it to turn to small producing countries like Thailand. At that time, it was just like winning a lottery prize for Thailand because it could sell agricultural products to the Soviet Union at good prices.

Grain shortages are a weak point of the Soviet superpower. It has to import not less than 40 million tons of grains annually to feed its own population. Moreover, the Soviet Union must also take care of dozens of its satellite countries. This year grain imports are even more necessary due to crop failures. If the United States and Canada apply a grain boycott against the Soviet Union again, the situation will be like that in late 1979 to 1980 during which Thailand sold 284,096 tons of maize to the Soviet Union. Last year Thailand sold an additional 316,266 tons of maize to that country, which has now become Thailand's largest customer with a good financial standing. On the other hand, the trade between the Soviet Union and Thailand has totally undermined the U.S. policy of boycotting the Soviet Union and displeased the United States.

Citing Thai-U.S. friendship and the free world's prestige, the U.S. ambassador called on Op Wasurat, the then commerce minister of the Kriangsak Cabinet II, to request that Thailand suspend sales of agricultural products to the Soviet Union. Op, who has been in agricultural trade circles for a long time and always places national survival above anything else, tactfully turned down the request, however, by saying that the sales were made under contracts signed earlier by the two countries, and told the U.S. ambassador that the request would be taken into consideration. Upon hearing such a reply, the United States, which is familiar with using force with respect to smaller countries, was disappointed with Thailand.

There was not, however, a better alternative for Thailand. The United States itself knew that if Thailand could not sell its agricultural products, Thai farmers would be in trouble, and our country would not have enough money to buy oil for domestic use.

Besides, the United States was in no position to help Thailand in this regard because it also had its own problem to solve. If the United States does not sell 30 million tons of grains to the Soviet Union, it must seek loans to purchase those products from farmers and keep them in stock. Worse still, the United States--superior to Thailand in all respects--later managed to release the products from its stocks at almost give-away prices with delivery service to buyers, mostly Thailand's old poor customers. Thailand's sale of agricultural products to the Soviet Union under such circumstances, therefore, is not much different than a taxi driver winning a lottery prize.

According to the latest report from a high-level source to MATICHON, the U.S. administration recently summoned Thai Ambassador to the United States Prok Ammaranan for a meeting and requested the Thai Government to cooperate with it in the new "boycott" against the Soviet Union. The source revealed that the Thai Embassy has informed the Commerce Ministry about the U.S. request as it did before. The Thai Government, however, has not yet given any reply to the United States. It is believed that Thailand is feeling some uneasiness over deciding on how to deal with this situation, particularly since pressure is coming from both internal and external sources.

At any event, if we only apply what we have learned from the past and Op Wasurat's policy, we should be able to solve this annoying problem without losing too much face. To suspend the sale of agricultural products to the Soviet Union can lead to big trouble in our country. The United States itself had to adopt awkward methods to solve related problems that affected its people such as by selling agricultural surpluses in competition with Thailand. In December last year, the United States released tin from its strategic stocks without listening to the appeal from Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, who flew to the United States in October.

In a time of crisis, a poor country like Thailand cannot afford to please its friends. Otherwise, our people will have nothing to eat.

THAILAND

USSR EMBASSY DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF TAPIOCA DEAL

BK111317 Hong Kong AFP in English 1128 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Bangkok, 11 Jan (AFP)--Thailand last year exported 6.67 million tons of tapioca and earned about \$739.13 million, the Commerce Ministry said here today. The Ministry said last year's exports were 40 and 14 percent higher in volume and value respectively compared to exports of the product during 1980.

Many foreign countries including the Soviet Union, Romania, South Korea and China have shown interest in buying cassava products from Thailand.

According to a recent announcement made by the state owned Radio of Thailand, the Soviet Union recently agreed to buy 500,000 tons of tapioca chips from Thailand this year. That country had also signed a contract for the purchase of one million tons of tapioca chips each year from 1983 to 1987. The Soviet Embassy here, however, said that it did not know of the agreement nor the signing of the 5-year contract.

Sources said a Soviet trade delegation, headed by Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade I. Grishin, will pay an 8-day visit to Bangkok, starting 25 January. A trade agreement is expected to be signed during the visit aimed at expanding bilateral trade. The delegation will also meet Thai businessmen during their stay.

During the first 8 months last year Thailand exported goods worth \$263 million and imported goods valued at \$10 million from the Soviet Union.

CSO: 4220/229

UNICEF TO REDUCE REFUGEE AID ROLE

BK010227 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 1 Jan 82 p 2

[Text] The United Nations International Children's Emergency Funds (UNICEF) yesterday officially ended its 2-year-old role as the leading agency providing humanitarian aid to Kampucheans on the Thai-Kampuchean border. However, UNICEF said it will continue to provide relief and rehabilitation assistance to the Kampuchean people both inside the country and along the border. UNICEF said in a statement it issued recently that it will also continue with its programme to assist some 80,000 Thai villagers who have been relocated in new villages because of the influx of the Kampuchean refugees.

In Kampuchea, besides its ongoing rehabilitation programme for mothers and children, UNICEF will monitor other United Nations assistance programmes to Kampuchea, according to a UNICEF announcement. It added that the agency would continue to support the efforts of the World Food Programme (WFP), which takes over the management of relief assistance to some 190,000 Khmer civilians who live in camps straddling the Thai-Kampuchean border. The humanitarian assistance programme has provided about \$646 million (about 15,000 million baht) in assistance to the Khmer people since its inception in October 1979.

The United Nations' organizations which have participated in the programme--UNICEF, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)--have worked with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and other non-governmental organizations in providing relief assistance to the Kampuchean people.

UNHCR also reported that despite remarkable progress of the programme since its inception, serious problems still remained along the border and in Kampuchea which "could necessitate the extension of a limited relief programme in 1982."

"In Kampuchea itself, indications are that the main rice crop grown in 1981 has fallen short of expectations chiefly because of erratic monsoon rains and in 1982, the country will have less locally-grown food available than it had in 1981," the statement said.

An FAO field Assessment mission which went to Kampuchea last November estimated that Kampuchea may experience a gross deficit of 278,000 tons in 1982 as against an

actual gross deficit of 192,000 tons in 1981. The amount is believed to be almost 30 percent of the calculated food requirement of the Kampuchean population, now estimated at 6.6 million.

The FAO mission assumes that approximately one-third of this deficit could be offset locally by increased plantings of manioc, bananas and vegetables and the prospect of a slightly larger fish catch in 1982.

The UNHCR statement said that if the food situation deteriorates, Kampuchea would have no access to regular United Nations assistance and no foreign exchange to buy food on the international market.

Donor countries have requested that a WFO-led mission of international experts in food supply and distribution be sent to Kampuchea this month to report on the food situation there. Following the return of the mission, a meeting of donor countries will be held in New York in February to determine whether relief assistance should be continued this year.

CSO: 4220/229

THAILAND

CARRINGTON'S ASEAN TOUR NOTED

BK290321 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 29 Jan 82

["News in Perspective" feature: "Aim of British Foreign Secretary's Tour of ASEAN"]

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington yesterday began a 2-week tour of Southeast Asia to show political support for the ASEAN alliance and promote trade with the fastest growing region in the world. Lord Carrington will also discuss the prospects of bringing peace to troubled Kampuchea. He will visit all five countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, namely Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and the Philippines.

A senior British official says: Firstly, the trip is meant to demonstrate British support for ASEAN and British desire to see a peaceful settlement in Kampuchea. Secondly, Britain wants to promote trade as it sees political and economic cooperation going hand in hand.

Lord Carrington is accompanied on his tour by a high-powered team of British businessmen looking at the potential for exports and investment in the ASEAN countries.

ASEAN has played a leading role trying to resolve the Kampuchean conflict, which [it] regards as the destabilizing influence on the whole region. Western diplomats say ASEAN countries want the Vietnamese out of Kampuchea because they fear that communist Vietnam had expansionist designs and could use Kampuchea as a springboard for subversion in Thailand and Malaysia.

Lord Carrington will make a symbolic trip to the Kampuchean border while in Thailand. His talks with ASEAN leaders will focus on alternative peace moves since Kampuchea's deposed Khmer Rouge government rejected Singapore's proposal for a loose coalition with two other anti-Vietnamese resistance movements. The diplomats said China had a crucial role to play, because it could exert considerable influence over the former regime.

Lord Carrington's first stop will be Indonesia, where British officials see the best prospect for boosting trade. The most difficult stop diplomatically will be Thailand. British officials acknowledged that relations with Malaysia are delicate, since the government in Kuala Lumpur last year imposed a restrictive policy on imports from Britain.

(S) 0220/119

LORD CARRINGTON'S VISIT ANALYZED

BK010156 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 1 Feb 82 p 4

[Article from the NATION's regional desk: "'A Man of All Problems' to Visit Khmer Border"]

[Text] Khmer resistance leader Son Sann met Lord Carrington, the British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, in London recently during which, it was reported, the British foreign minister made it clear that while London would not ship arms to the Khmer resistance force, other kinds of assistance have not been ruled out.

"But the policy in London is to follow what ASEAN considers to be the best way out for the Kampuchean problem. Britain would not take any initiatives in this regard," said the spokesman of the British Embassy in Bangkok.

Lord Carrington will fly into Bangkok on Wednesday [3 February] for a 3-day visit during which he will fulfill one of his long-time wishes--to see for himself the Thai-Kampuchean border and how Thailand has been coping with the influx of refugees.

"British relations with Thailand are in good shape. Thailand has our continued support as the frontline state in the face of the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia," he told a British diplomatic correspondent before leaving for his ASEAN tour last week.

Lord Carrington will be holding talks with Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila on Thursday, 1 day after he flies in from Manila after his visit to Indonesia.

The Thai foreign minister and his British counterpart have known each other in the past years, particularly in their frequent discussions on the Kampuchean issue.

"Sitthi apparently will brief Lord Carrington on the latest developments in the regional affairs, particularly in relation to the Kampuchean issue," said a diplomatic source who recalled that the UK has de-recognized the Khmer Rouge government (Democratic Kampuchea) but has not taken the step of getting any closer to the Vietnam-installed Heng Samrin regime.

...has held back assistance to Vietnam in line with the concerted efforts to continue with the economic pressure on Vietnam. There is a low level of trading activity but no new aid projects are in the pipeline.

"I think what Lord Carrington intends to do during his ASEAN tour is to look for indications of prospects of a political solution to the Khmer problem. He might personally exchange opinions with the ASEAN leaders of alternatives but he won't be offering any new initiatives on this score, surely," said the diplomatic source.

Lord Carrington, dubbed "the man for all problems," has been noted for his diplomatic skill in bringing about a negotiated settlement in the potentially explosive transition from Rhodesia into Zimbabwe. He is also becoming one of the world's longer-serving foreign secretaries.

His upcoming visit to Thailand will be the first since he took over the current post in 1979. He will, apart from discussing regional and world affairs, also be discussing how British business can contribute to Thailand's development.

With him, in fact, will be a group of prominent British businessmen including Sir Jack Wellings, chairman of the Six Hundred Group of Companies (engineering), Sir Arnold Hall, chairman, Hawker Siddeley Group (diverse construction plant and engineering group) who will be accompanied by Mr Guy Cheeketts, managing director of Hawker Siddeley International; Mr A.H.J. Hoskins, chairman, Matthew Hall and Co. Ltd., (engineering), Mr D.A.A. Holland, chairman, Balfour Beatty (construction), Sir Frederick Page, chairman of the Aircraft Group British Aerospace, Mr J. Maynard, chairman, John Brown (heavy engineering), and Ann Sir Edward Ashmore, director of ICAI (electronics).

Britain is the fourth biggest supplier of manufactured goods to Thailand after Japan, the U.S. and West Germany.

After holding talks on Thursday with Premier Prem, Foreign Minister Sittthi and other officials (Chachai Chinnawan), Lord Carrington will visit the border on Friday -- at Ladang and Song Sanda -- to inspect the feeding of refugees. He is particularly interested in observing the role of some British voluntary agencies, including Christian Aid.

From Bangkok he will fly to Chiang Mai for an audience with their majesties the King and Queen. After one day's stay in Chiang Mai Saturday morning, Lord Carrington and his wife, Lady Emma Helen Carrington, will fly from the northern town to Kuala Lumpur after which he will complete his ASEAN tour in Singapore. The trip to Kuala Lumpur is a private visit.

On the political issues he raised, Lord Carrington is expected to tell Thai leaders that his government continues to support what ASEAN has been attempting to do -- to keep Indochina supervised independently and a fair result in which the people of the area decide their own future.

Lord Carrington went to the Conference in New York which was called for the purpose of discussing Indochina and held a speech which supported the ASEAN position. "I think

they have been very successful, though we have got some way to go, I think, before the problem is solved," he told the BBC on 26 January in an interview before beginning his ASEAN visit (28 January-9 February).

Asked about the UK's position on the so-called "third force" of the Khmer resistance including the Khmer Rouge, Lord Carrington replied: "It doesn't exist at the moment. Consultations are still going on. I think they are some way off agreement but certainly it isn't in being yet..."

When asked about the Khmer Rouge's rejection of Singapore's suggestion for a loose coalition of anti-Vietnamese forces, Lord Carrington said: "Yes, I think it is a setback. But before you see a third force, you usually have setbacks of this kind. That is why I was rather careful in answering, when I said we haven't yet got a third force..."

One of the important topics expected to be raised during his talks with the Thai leaders is the security of the region. Britain has recently boosted its military aid and training programmes to Thailand, especially following the 23 June 1980 Vietnamese incursion into Thailand.

London, after selling its "blowpipe" shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles to Thailand, has been trying to persuade Thailand to "diversify" its sources of military equipment. Talks have been held regularly between representatives on both sides.

"Although it may not be on the official agenda, I am sure that the question of British military assistance to Thailand will be quite an important subject of discussions, said a diplomatic source.

CSO: 4220/229

EDITORIAL VIEWS LORD CARRINGTON'S VISIT

BK020154 Bangkok POST in English 2 Feb 82 p 4

[Editorial: "More Than a Courtesy Call..."]

[Text] A special relationship has always existed between Thailand and Britain, one which has weathered the tensions of international politics and changing governments. Although history books do not portray 19th and early-20th century British overtures to this country in an especially favourable light, Siam, by the use of adroit diplomacy, was able to resist its would-be colonisers. By skillfully setting one potential coloniser against another, our ancestors actually managed to exploit the would-be exploiters and turn a potentially catastrophic situation to their own advantage.

Now times have changed but our diplomacy remains as shrewd as ever.

Possibly, the greater part of this special relationship between Britain and Thailand results from a close affinity between the world's two leading monarchies. Thailand was as delighted to welcome Queen Elizabeth and other members of her family here as Britain was to play host to a visit by our very own royal family. It was this identification between monarchies that made the televised wedding of Britain's crown prince and Lady Diana such a widely-viewed and popular spectacle in Thailand.

Increasing bilateral trade has also forged another important link while, on the political front, Thailand and Britain have normally found themselves in general harmony when buttons are pressed for United Nations' votes. It would be impossible to deny that there are minor irritants, especially over the Kampuchean question, where Britain was the first to "derecognise" any Khmer government, including the legitimate one in exile, and friction over tariff barriers which have appeared to be directed at our fledgling electronics export industry.

That is why this week's visit by British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington should be considered as more than just a courtesy call. It demonstrates a reaffirmation of the regard in which Britain holds this country and the willingness of both sides to smooth out any ripples that could affect future relationships. This tour also shows the importance with which Britain views ASEAN and the region's development. The subjects up for discussion will range far beyond Britain and encompass the policies of the European Economic Community and the changes in attitude brought about by the Polish situation and the anti-Soviet utterances emanating from the Reagan White House.

The fact that Lord Carrington will be accompanied by such a high-powered team of businessmen is another reassuring sign of confidence in our economy and the willingness of foreign investors to place their trust in Thailand. Let us hope that this visit proves the forerunner to renewed interest in Thailand by high-ranking ministers and businessmen from other industrialised nations. To any who have doubts about our investment climate and future stability we extend an open invitation to come here and see the facts for themselves.

CSO: 4220/229

EDITORIAL SUPPORTS EFFORTS FOR KHMER UNITY

BK281416 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 28 Jan 82 p 2

[Editorial: "ASEAN-Kampuchea"]

[Text] ASEAN's attitude toward Kampuchea has been extensively criticized since the Khmer Rouge, under the leadership of Khieu Samphan, rejected ASEAN's proposal for the setting up of a coalition for Kampuchea because they found certain points in the proposal unacceptable.

As a matter of fact, there is nothing wrong with the idea of merging all the Kampuchean factions to fight against the Vietnamese occupation because this is in line with the UN resolution, which calls for the immediate withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea so that peace can be restored in this region. The ASEAN proposal was a strategy aimed at achieving regional peace by resorting to all possible methods of pushing Vietnamese troops out of Kampuchea.

For this reason, it is necessary to review the proposal thoroughly to learn its shortcomings and to discern the differences between the policies of Thailand and those of ASEAN as a whole toward the Kampuchean issue.

It is obvious that the proposal came up against the obstacle posed by the rightwing group headed by Son Sann's group when it set many conditions for participation in the coalition. Singapore and other countries in ASEAN give special support to Son Sann's faction.

The conditions set by Son Sann seemed to benefit only his own group rather than the overall effort to drive the Vietnamese out of Kampuchea. Some observers believe that certain ASEAN member countries want to use Son Sann as protection against the communist threat and to liberate Kampuchea from socialism.

The fear of communism has given Son Sann's group much international support as of late, despite the fact that Khieu Samphan's Khmer Rouge are far superior in military forces and discipline of their soldiers, which are the decisive factors for success in pushing the Vietnamese troops out of Kampuchea.

This is probably the reason why the proposal for the setting up of the Kampuchean tripartite coalition failed. Meanwhile, it is clear that ASEAN is worried not only about the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea, but also about the spread of socialism among the neighboring countries in which ASEAN has failed to consider reality.

The target of ASEAN's international struggle is peace in this region. ASEAN is not fighting against any administrative form of government.

The conclusion is that the merger of the anti-Vietnamese factions in Kampuchea is the proper thing to do and this can occur even by means of the proposal recently made in Beijing by Prince Sihanouk if ASEAN members will behave like good neighbors which sincerely want peace in the region. They must not try to influence the Khmer factions to join in the coalition. But they must fully support the common aspirations of the Kampuchean people and the peace-loving world public, who do not want to see the sovereignty of any country violated.

CSO: 4207/48

PRC POLICY ON CPT, KAMPUCHEA DISCUSSED

BK040206 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 4 Jan 82 p 4

[Editorial: "China Raising Stakes in the Khmer 'Game'"]

[Text] The Communist Party of Thailand, it has been reported, is having trial runs to start broadcasting from NAN broadcasts started about a couple of decades ago from Hunnan in South China and for a brief period halted the broadcasts. Well, the point is that it may start again. But Thailand has lived with such broadcasts for a long, long time and it is such ordinary news that one must look at it again and try to second guess the intentions.

When Chinese Vice Chairman Deng Xiaoping, the "strongman" or the "power behind the throne," was in Thailand a little more than 21 years ago, he made it explicit that the relations between the CPT and the Communist Party of China were cordial and it had nothing to do with the relations between the governments in Bangkok and Beijing. This statement, which he made openly, was supposed to be dismissed as casuistry because he did not specify that in China, as in every other communist country, the party is more powerful than the government.

Malaysia, then under the premiership of Hussein Onn, was the first country to state openly that what Deng said about the CPT and the Communist Party of Malaysia amounted to Chinese backing for the communist insurgents working against the stability of Thailand and Malaysia. Immediately Indonesia picked up the tune and joined in the same chord, but it was Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew who came up with the clincher. He said in the commonwealth summit in Australia late last year, American backing for Chinese politicking was detrimental to Southeast Asia.

Singapore will deny that Chinese world outlook has changed drastically since the death of Chairman Mao Zedong in 1976 but so has that of the Soviet Union, her arch-enemy, against whose numerous predatory activities China finds herself impotent and finds her friend, the United States, long on words and short on action. But confining ourselves to our region, Southeast Asia, the honeymoon between China and ASEAN seems to be in jeopardy. It is not a question of apportioning blame, it is just a question of viewing ASEAN's point of view from the realities that obtain in Beijing politics.

So far as China and ASEAN are concerned, the most important agreement and the most important discussion is towards Kampuchean policies.

Yes, both want a political solution but the pragmatism which the Chinese leaders bring to the Kampuchean question is only in assonance with ASEAN views--the Chinese view is that only the Khmer Rouge can stand up to the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea while the ASEAN view is that both the Sihanouk and the Son Sann groups should be united with the Khmer Rouge in order to give it international recognition and bringing it international assistance. It is no secret that the Chinese are blocking the formation of a "patriotic" government of a loose coalition as proposed by ASEAN.

Middle of last year, the Chinese started the broadcasts of the Communist Party of Malaya and now they are trying to show openly that the CPT can broadcast right from inside Thailand. To repeat, Thailand has lived many years with the reality of CPT broadcasts as she has with insurgency in various areas. But the timing must be taken into consideration--why was there a halt of these broadcasts for 3 years and why is it now the Chinese-sponsored CPT is making trial broadcasts from NAN? The implications, of course, are multifarious and they would not escape our intelligence officers, the communist suppression operations command, nor the supreme command. But one indication is crystal clear: The whole matter is related to the Kampuchean situation and there is no question that Beijing is playing a very calculated game with high stakes.

CSO: 4210/229

COMMUNIST VOICES PESSIMISM ON ANTI-CPT STRUGGLE

BANGKOK SAN MOANG in Thai 14 NAM 61 y 4

Editorial note to Thai column by Manic Nirakun: "Have the Communist Terrorists Really Become Weaker?"

(Text: The ISOC, or Internal Security Operations Command, has summarized the results of the terrorist operations of the Communist Party in Thailand. The ISOC says that, at present, the communist terrorists have greatly declined in Thailand because the counter operations of the military have achieved great success. This summary was given during a seminar for provincial governors held throughout the country.)

(Text: According to the ISOC is given a military glance and without looking at the facts, many people may agree with this summary. But if they do not choose to look at the facts, they will see the picture of the ISOC as a whole. They will see that this summary of results by the ISOC is not the real picture.)

(Text: In the northeast and in the north, the communist terrorists are still active. They are still active against the military, the police, and the government. They are still active in their efforts to take and control the country.)

(Text: The ISOC is not the only organization that is active in the country. There are many other organizations that are active in the country. These organizations are active in the country in many ways. They are active in the country in many ways.)

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One place that is a strong area of operations of the communist terrorists in the north is Nam Nao Subdistrict in Phetchabun Province. We have written about, given warnings and made recommendations about this place many times, stating that the communist terrorists there constantly carry on violent operations against the government authorities and people.

Many villages, or about the entire subdistrict, are controlled by the communist terrorists and they have announced that this is their administrative area. They have Village headmen, commune leaders and district committee chairmen who govern the area like an independent state without any interference from the military, police or administrative officials. Although all the operations of the communist terrorists are known, no one can interfere because the communist terrorists always deal with such people in a harsh way.

There are many examples. For example, communist terrorists ambushed the Nam Nao police inspector, killing the police inspector, the deputy police inspector and some of their men. And, communist terrorists destroyed a village using RPGs. Many people were killed and wounded.

Communist terrorists have come out of the jungle and blocked off the Chumphak-Lomsak highway. They inspected the vehicles looking for government officials, soldiers or policemen -- their enemies -- who may have been riding in passenger vehicles.

With all this, do you still think the communist terrorists are weakening?

The communist terrorist problem, whether in the south, the northeast or the north, will not improve, as some groups think, if we continue to try to solve this problem in a relaxed, overconfident and careless way.

Many groups, even at the district or provincial echelon, are not satisfied about the police personnel. Those who come to work for the IGAC at the provincial and district echelons do not have sufficient quality. They come only for the military equipment, that is, the \$10 to \$15 million support money. Thus, it is not strange that the IGAC has summarized that the communist terrorists are everywhere, even though the communist terrorists are battling our support weapons in all areas.

If we fail to look to improve the work of the IGAC at the provincial and district echelons, there will be very serious -- dangerous -- situation in that we will have a communist party joined to the communist party in Thailand.

It is clear, that since the north tried to defend the country, but, at present, we are only just able to have the right thing to do, that is,

INTERIOR MINISTRY ORDERS GOVERNORS TO CONTROL VDC FORCES

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 14 Nov 61 pp 1, 10

(Article: "The Ministry of Interior Has Ordered That the Volunteer Defense Corps Be Controlled; the People Do Not Trust Them")

(Text) The Ministry of Interior is afraid that the people have lost confidence in the Volunteer Defense Corps (VDC). It has ordered that the activities of the VDC be controlled nationwide. It sent this order to every provincial governor and even to the clerk of Bangkok Municipality.

Mr. Phisan Mulasatsarorn, the undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior, stated that three control measures have been stipulated. The first is that the use of the VDC must be closely controlled so that strict discipline is maintained. If anyone does something wrong or acts improperly, he must be punished in accord with regulations.

The second is that VDC members must constantly be given training concerning discipline, duties and moral behavior. The third is that, before using the VDC to carry out an operation in an area, it must be carefully considered whether or not the operation should be carried out.

The undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior stated that there is evidence and complaints because some VDC members have acted in ways that have caused dissatisfaction among the people. For example, in carrying out joint operations with the police, they have even involve and seize tax revenue the people are entitled to receive in some. And some irregularities will lead to a loss of confidence in the VDC in general.

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CONFLICTS BETWEEN VDC, CORRUPT INFLUENCES, GOVERNMENT NOTED

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 16 Nov 81 p 7

[Thoughts From the News column by Prachop: "The VDC and Three Regulations of the Ministry of Interior"]

[Text] The Ministry of Interior has ordered the governors of all provinces and the clerk of Bangkok Municipality to closely monitor the operations of the Volunteer Defense Corps, or VDC as it is called, since it appears that in carrying on joint operations with police officials, some VDC members have done things that have caused dissatisfaction among the people. This has caused people to lose confidence in them and damaged the reputation of the Ministry of Interior. Thus, it has ordered the provincial governors and the clerk of Bangkok Municipality to specifically direct the VDC in their areas of responsibility to hold to the following three practices:

1. The use of the VDC in the operations areas must be closely monitored. If it appears that any member of the VDC violates discipline or acts improperly, he must be punished in accord with the regulations.
2. VDC members must be given training concerning discipline, duties and ethical behavior.
3. Whether it is proper to use VDC members to carry out an operation in an area must be carefully considered.

Before the ISAC issued this order, there were sensational news reports concerning the VDC in some southern provinces. Lieutenant General Wan Linanont, the commanding general of the Fourth Army Area and the director of Region 4 communist activities suppression operations, ordered the VDC in Nakhon Si Thammarat Municipality not to engage in joint operations with the police and to surrender their weapons to the director of the VDC center in Muang District. He forbid them from dressing in uniforms resembling military uniforms and from carrying weapons. He took this action because he had received complaints from the people that some VDC members had carried out their duties in ways that had caused trouble for the people. In addition, he felt that Nakhon Si Thammarat Municipality already had enough police and military officials to preserve the peace.

could not refuse (to let them join) since they had to rely on the financial help of these merchants and capitalists.

Since the VDC has a large number of members, it is only natural that there are both good and bad people in the organization. That is, there are people who joined out of patriotism and who are ready to make sacrifices and fight to defend the country and people who became VDC members with the hope of using their uniforms and weapons as tools for personal gain. And some people were sent by the capitalists or influential people with the hope of using them in order to be able to control activities that violate the laws of the country. It is these members of the VDC who have caused trouble for and disturbed the peace of the people and country to the point where they have actually caused more violations of the country's laws.

Another thing worth noting is that the VDC was established a long time ago in many provinces but only recently has there been a problem of (VDC members) causing trouble for the people in Nakhon Sithammarat Province. As for other places, it is usually a matter of drunkenness or personal conflicts and not a matter of using weapons and uniforms to threaten the people or of helping the merchants and capitalists violate the law. Thus, the behavior of the VDC in Nakhon Sithammarat Province is rather interesting.

In actuality, the fact that the Fourth Army Area ordered the VDC not to carry on joint bandit suppression operations with the police and forbid them from wearing uniforms like soldiers and from carrying weapons in Nakhon Sithammarat Municipality is the same as saying that the police and military officials are up to the task of preserving peace in the municipality without having to involve the VDC. Also, this was not the original purpose in establishing the VDC since the real aim in establishing the VDC was to have it help smash communist terrorist attacks, or disturbances. As for suppressing crime or preserving peace and order in the cities, this is usually not a problem. Communist terrorist attacks should be left to the police and the military to handle since they are the ones who are directly responsible for this. If the main objective of the VDC is to preserve the peace and fight the communist terrorists in particular, I do not see why VDC members should be unhappy or want to resign since they must have seen people who mistakenly think that they joined the VDC for better trading or with other aims.

I stated that the formation and growth of the VDC in some provinces depended on their receiving financial help from the merchants and capitalists and also some of these people did not always intend to join a violent movement. As for the southern provinces in particular, it is well known that this is an area rich in natural resources, unlike other areas in the country. For example, this area has rubber, rubber, and rubber, and rubber wealth from these natural resources. There is a "barrier" way from the rubber to the market, and it is necessary to have a way to transport the rubber to the market. Therefore, the rubber is an area rich in natural resources, and it is necessary to have a way to transport the rubber to the market.

PARAMILITARY UNITS TRAINING, SUBORDINATION REPORTED

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 17 Nov 61 p 5

[TA Mo Lo column: "Make Changes Before Things Go to Pieces"]

[Text] Readers are probably confused by news reports that refer to the VS, VDC, RSV and special guerrilla forces or rangers.

VS refers to the Village Scouts, which are deteriorating because of something else that is more exciting, the VDC or Volunteer Defense Corps.

The RSV are civilian volunteers who fight against the communist terrorists in their locality. The rangers are soldiers who are hired to fight communist terrorists in all areas.

People have been hearing about the rangers for a long time and they are still hearing a lot about them. There is frequently news about the rangers in the newspapers because they frequently mistake villagers for communist terrorists.

And their superiors frequently cover up things like spot bosses in for their subordinates, although this is bad for the troubled villagers.

The RSV, or Regional Security Volunteers, do not have many problems because it seems that they know that that they are only local fighters and not regional fighters like the rangers and as such much is heard about them.

There was more news about the VDC just a few days ago because the new commander general of the Fourth Army Area limited the role of the VDC. He forbid them from wearing uniforms and has prohibited them from carrying on operations within municipal limits.

The rangers are subordinate to the military; the RSV, VDC and VS are subordinate to the Ministry of Interior.

Regarding the VDC, which has problems in the Fourth Army Area, the report that the commander in chief of the Fourth Army Area limited their role in municipal areas. We just discovered that the VDC is municipal area.

and he was the most influential people and were like the personal
influence of the influential people, who had some influence on various of the
of personal justice, with some trouble for the people, and who were
operate with the various terrorist groups only in order to make a profit.

This cannot be allowed to continue.

Secondly, in 1975, the VC killed a lot of suppressed the terrorists in
the mountain along with the military and did not act badly.

It was in that period that part of the territory where the terrorists were mobilized
was left behind in the valleys. Something had to be done about that
the situation.

It was in the period of the terrorists it is the side of the valley.

Thirdly, the VC had to be in the valley, the VC had to take up arms
in the valley. They found with enthusiasm and discipline for
the situation of the valley and the valley.

Fourthly, the VC started operating in other areas outside of their area.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.

Fifthly, the VC started operating in other areas outside of their area.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.

Sixthly, the VC started operating in other areas outside of their area.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.

Seventhly, the VC started operating in other areas outside of their area.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.

Eighthly, the VC started operating in other areas outside of their area.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.
The VC started with their own control of the valley.

Ninthly, the VC started operating in other areas outside of their area.
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The VC started with their own control of the valley.
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Tenthly, the VC started operating in other areas outside of their area.
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In the future, it will be necessary for the military to make full use of the VDC, PSV and rangers in fighting the communist terrorists. This is because the military must be ready to turn and fight foreign enemies who may foolishly attack at any time.

The VDC will have to serve as a substitute for the military. It must be stronger than it is at present. Thus, it must be subordinate to the military so that it is constantly strong.

The rangers must be reformed because their situation is that of "living for the moment only" with no future. This makes them ruthless, like the French Foreign Legion, which is used to suppress foreigners.

But the communist terrorists are not foreigners and there are complex conditions. The forces used to suppress them must have honor and discipline.

Also, it will take several more years to suppress the communist terrorists and so it is necessary to improve recruiting conditions so that the people hired to work for the state have a definite income and a future so that those who take up arms are good people with honor and discipline.

The village groups should be preserved because, first, this raises the social status of the villagers and, second, this is the best "peace work" at the social grassroots level.

They should be made more businesslike so that things are better.

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END 4/27/81

MALAYSIAN INDOCHINA POLICY REVIEWED

BAROKKA MATHEON in Thai 24 NOK RI pp 4.

Article by Chalabong Malakirawong: "Malaysia's View of the Indochina Problem"

The Malaysian government, under the leadership of Datuk Seri Dr. Ismail Hashim, who became prime minister during the middle of July, has revealed its attitude toward the Indochina problem. This does not mean that the Malaysian government's policy on the Indochina problem will remain from what it was during the time Datuk Hussein Onn was prime minister.

Malaysia's policy toward this problem is still based on the principle of non-interference. The only thing is that, under the new group of leaders, the government's policy toward Vietnam and China is now more liberal.

The government's policy during the time of Datuk Hussein Onn

was to maintain a neutral position toward the Indochina problem and to avoid any involvement in the Indochina dispute.

During the time of Datuk Hussein Onn, the Malaysian government had a policy of non-interference in the Indochina problem. This policy was based on the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. The Malaysian government had a policy of non-interference in the Indochina problem during the time of Datuk Hussein Onn.

The Malaysian government's policy during the time of Datuk Hussein Onn was to maintain a neutral position toward the Indochina problem and to avoid any involvement in the Indochina dispute.

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Besides this, Tenku Rithauddeen mentioned the danger of the conflict in Kampuchea expanding and spilling over into neighboring countries if this conflict continues and is not stopped.

"If this happens, it will not involve Kampuchea alone. The whole of Southeast Asia will be a field of competition between the great powers, which would harm the security of our region."

"We believe that even if the domestic policy of a state is bad, that does not give another state an excuse to use its power to occupy that state."

In his closing remarks, the Malaysian minister of foreign affairs repeated that Malaysia will hold to the agreements of United Nations Resolution No 35/6, which will form the basis for solving the Kampuchean problem and which will help lead to a multinational conference on Kampuchea in order to seek solutions to the various disputes.

He stressed that it is Malaysia's great and sincere hope to see the various countries in Asia strong and independent and free from all influence and interference from the great powers.

At the same time, the Soviet leader tried to tell Tenku Rithauddeen that Russia hopes to give Malaysia a part in Russia's policy concerning the Kampuchean problem. The Russian deputy minister of foreign affairs stated that he hopes that everyone understands this policy.

And he hopes to see interest in opening negotiations or discussions between the various states of Indochina and Asia to solve the Kampuchean problem.

After the Change of Government

During the middle of July when Dr Mahathir Mohamed took over as prime minister from Datuk Hussein Onn, Ghazali Shafie, the former minister of home affairs, took over as minister of foreign affairs from Tenku Rithauddeen.

It can be seen that when he took this new position, the Malaysian government's policy toward the Indochina problem remained the same. This may be because the change of government in Malaysia occurred right after the successes scored by ASEAN in preventing a resolution at the United Nations conference, a resolution that called on Vietnam to withdraw its forces from Kampuchea.

But the clear scope of Malaysia's policy toward the various countries, especially Vietnam and the U.S., is one of creating an atmosphere of greater friendship. This will appear from the remarks made by Minister of Foreign Affairs Shafie during the acceptance ceremonies when he took over his new position.

As for the various countries, he feels that there are many ways to solve the Indochina problem "without each country having its own method."

As for those countries that are not attached to any side, they have an important role to play in solving the Indochina problem.

As for Malaysia and ASEAN, they want to find out why Hanoi is not willing to accept our proposal. But even so....

"There is no reason why the good relations between Malaysia and the allies of Vietnam should be affected at all by the fact that these countries do not agree with the proposals of ASEAN."

This can be seen from the matter of three Russian diplomats being expelled from Kuala Lumpur on the grounds that they were caught while carrying out an act of espionage. But even so, Shalle still said that:

"The expulsion of these people should not affect relations between Malaysia and Russia. They are the ones who have to be ashamed. The only lesson that we must learn from this is that we should not engage in such acts if we want to be friends."

The Soviet embassy in Kuala Lumpur did not have any reaction to this.

In relations between Malaysia and the People's Republic of China, this is something that should be carefully noted because it can be used to understand the views of the Indonesian people.

On the 14th incident came to pass in Malaysia, relations with China have been good. Shalle repeated that concerning relations between the two countries, there would not be anything that would cause relations to deteriorate.

Nevertheless, Shalle and Chong had a difference of opinion on some other matter. In relation to the East Timor problem, Chong said that while the United States, Japan and Australia were not that far from the United States, they were still far from it.

On the 15th incident, on the 15th, it was the Malaysian government's reply to the Indonesian and British that they should not be involved in the East Timor problem. It was the Malaysian government's reply to the Indonesian and British that they should not be involved in the East Timor problem.

On the 16th incident, on the 16th, it was the Malaysian government's reply to the Indonesian and British that they should not be involved in the East Timor problem. It was the Malaysian government's reply to the Indonesian and British that they should not be involved in the East Timor problem.

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On the 18th incident, on the 18th, it was the Malaysian government's reply to the Indonesian and British that they should not be involved in the East Timor problem. It was the Malaysian government's reply to the Indonesian and British that they should not be involved in the East Timor problem.

But the rather frank conversation that Foreign Minister Ghazali had with U.S. Senator S.I. Hayakawa is a reflection of the real feelings and reactions of the Malaysian government toward China.

That is that the Chinese Communist Party is providing ideological support to the Malaysian Communist Party in its attempt to topple the central government.

"Our view is that China poses a greater danger in this region than does the Soviet Union since China has relations with the Malaysian Communist Party while the Soviet Union does not."

This reaction of the present Malaysian government toward China can be separated into two aspects. The first is that the new Malaysian leaders do not believe China is sincere because of the long distrust that this group has had toward the Chinese in Malaysia.

Even though a person such as Dr Mahathir has become prime minister and he must try to solve the racial problem, the country's basic problem, this feeling of distrust, which is expressed as dissatisfaction with the Chinese, is probably still deep-rooted in the thinking of the present prime minister. Such ideas concerning the Chinese were expressed in his banned book "Malay Problems."

Therefore, the policy of Dr Mahathir and his group toward China will probably be implemented with caution and distrust.

The second aspect is that the Malaysian government's view of China is probably tied to its views of the Indochina problem. This is because the problem that has arisen in Indochina stems from the struggle between China, Vietnam and Russia to expand their influence.

Since Malaysia does not trust China and always views its actions in a negative way, we can expect that Malaysia will view Vietnam in a more trusting way. This can be seen from an interview that was granted to a newspaper in Djakarta:

"Vietnam is not a problem for our threat to Asean. We will certainly not see waves of Vietnamese army troops invading Malaysia."

And when he visited Thailand, Dr Mahathir stated that Malaysia clearly understands the danger that Vietnam has created (the occupation of Kampuchea) but Malaysia does not believe that Vietnam is presently able to create problems for the country.

That is, Vietnam must build and improve its own country and, therefore, it will not have much chance to interfere in outside politics. In particular, Dr Mahathir does not believe that Vietnam will use military force to attack any of the Asean countries.

Since the Malaysian leader has this view of Vietnam, it shows that Malaysia will not rely much on China's influence to have China help restore the balance of power in Southeast Asia or even have them help pressure Vietnam to get out of Kampuchea. Concerning this last idea, Thai leaders hope to use it to good result.

Because he does not intend to have China become involved in the problems in this region or in solving the problem of Vietnam occupying Kampuchea, the new Malaysian leader has followed the policy of former Prime Minister Hussein Onn. This is in accord with the agreement reached among the Asean countries in which support in the United Nations will be used to call on Vietnam to remove its forces from Kampuchea.

Concerning Malaysia's intention of using support in the United Nations, Malaysia hopes to get other countries throughout the world interested in the problems in Indochina. This is the same thing that Thailand and other countries in Asean have been trying to do.

But the thing that must be repeated here is that the new group of Malaysian leaders do not intend to involve just the few great powers in the problems of this region.

Because Foreign Minister Ghazali feels that if the Kampuchean problem is solved quickly, the major powers such as Russia and China will have less opportunity to become politically involved in this region.

Concerning this view about the great powers, Dr Mahathir once said that it is Malaysia's policy to try to remain distant from all the great powers.

"We are not waiting on the great powers. These countries cannot send warships into our territorial waters. But we are worried about the various actions of the great powers (Russia, China and the United States)."

Dr Mahathir admitted that it is not easy to persuade the great powers since they each have their own ideas.

"But we will continue to carry out things in accord with this policy of ours."

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42/7/40

NONOFFICIAL THAI-INDONESIAN DIALOGUE ON KAMPUCHEA REPORTED

BK290937 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 25 Jan 82 pp 4, 10

["Thai Talk" column by Sithichai Yun: "Thai-Indonesian Dialogue: Second-Guessing VN Move"]

[Text] Exchanging "perceptions" and "scenarios" over the Kampuchean issue has certainly become a popular exercise. If that was an uphill task, second-guessing Vietnam and the superpowers from the ASEAN standpoint is even more intriguing. But in most cases, the players of this game would end up agreeing that there are so many missing links and "grey areas" in the puzzle that only time will prove which perception would eventually bear out the validity of its advocates.

When about 30 Thais and Indonesians from various walks of life sat down over the weekend for a closed-door meeting in Bangkok for their first "Thai-Indonesian dialogue" for the nonofficial session, the same exercise was repeated.

Some of the questions might have been repeated several times all over. But then, certain new arguments were raised. The private bilateral channel of communications has somehow got started. And that was in itself a significant move.

Has Vietnam shown any signs of a change in its rigid stand on the Kampuchean issue recently? Participants in the discussion agreed that Hanoi remains firm on its stand. In fact, the meeting was told when Pham Van Dong was asked by a group of visiting reporters in Hanoi recently whether Vietnam would be ready to live in hunger, sacrificing its economic development until the end of the century to keep its troops in Kampuchea on the grounds of national security, "he got somewhat angry at the question."

The old argument that Vietnam should be given aid to prevent it from getting deeper into the Russian embrace was raised. There was also the suggestion that ASEAN should look at the Kampuchean problem from a new light. Somehow, the perceptions of threats from China and Vietnam as viewed by the various members of ASEAN should be synchronized, it was suggested.

Has the "sense of urgency" been lost in seeking a prompt solution to the Kampuchean problem? Some participants said the impression was perhaps wrong. But timing is important. Perhaps the next congress of the Vietnamese Communist Party, postponed several times and now scheduled for March or April this year, may produce some

significant changes. It was suggested that ASEAN would do well to devise its new approach, if any, after the outcome of that congress in Hanoi is clear.

"We are trying to help Vietnam out of its own dilemma," declared a participant in reply to a suggestion from another speaker that the policy of isolating Vietnam would only harden its policy. "No, I think we have, through various proposals, been trying to help Vietnam find a way out. Even the proposed creation of a coalition government was an attempt to do that. If in Vietnam's perception Pol Pot is the personification of the so-called Chinese threat, then the proposed loose coalition to get Son Sann and Sihanouk in would take care of that problem."

Vietnam might, however, see this as a "trap," another participant said, adding that the "siege mentality" in Hanoi remains strong and that some Vietnamese officials had even asked whether the term "ASEAN's resilience" was, in fact, a "scheme" against Vietnam after all.

Does Vietnam have to choose between economic development and security? Would the new Political Bureau expected to emerge after the next party congress be more pragmatic? There were no firm answers to those questions. But none of the participants really believes that any major new direction would surface from Hanoi in the near future.

While most participants in the discussions were skeptical that China would administer the "second lesson" against Vietnam (both sides having learned the "lesson" in their own ways), the basic dispute between Vietnam and China continues to haunt the region.

"The problem between Vietnam and China can't be solved by other countries--not ASEAN anyway. They have to solve the dispute themselves. And we are not a party to the conflict in Kampuchea, mind you," declared a speaker after another participant had suggested that perhaps ASEAN could play the "intermediary role" in helping China and Vietnam to come to some sort of understanding.

But as long as the Khmer Rouge are there, the Vietnamese would continue to talk about the "Chinese threat" in Kampuchea, someone else said, prompting a statement from a Thai representative to reiterate this line:

"We certainly do not want Pol Pot back in power. At the same time, the last thing we want is to restore Chinese dominance in Kampuchea..."

If Vietnam has continuously cited its security interest in occupying Kampuchea by force, Thailand's perception of the threat from Vietnam is also seen from the historical perspective. "Vietnam is a nationalist country first and then a Marxist, communist nation with a commitment towards communist internationalism," a participant said, arguing that Vietnam had yet to convince Thailand that its ambition stops at the other side of the Mekong River.

Whether the so-called "Ho Chi Minh's testament" really existed or whether any copy of it could be verified is one great mystery in itself. But in a pro-Vietnam book written by an Indian couple entitled "Back to the Front, the Unfinished Story of Vietnam" (by R.P. Kaushik and Susheela Kaushik) after the Chinese attack against Vietnam in 1979, it was stated that: "By 1930, he (Ho Chi Minh) had been asked

by the Comintern to form the Indochinese Communist Party. By 1931, he had been appointed the head of the Far East Bureau of the Comintern, with the task of organizing and directing the communist movements in Siam, Indonesia and Malaysia... By his successful handling of the Vietnamese independence movement within the broad revolutionary army, he had emerged a pioneer of the national liberation movements in Asia..."

That was cited by a participant as an example of Hanoi's ambitions. And that prompted a question from the other side of the table: Why hasn't Thailand objected to the presence of about 50,000 Vietnamese troops in Laos then?

"It's a matter of geopolitical calculations on part of Thailand. From the Lao border, the enemy could enter only through the vast land areas of the northeast. But from Kampuchea, if you look at the map, the enemy could just march in and take the heartland of Thailand. That's strategically very important to Thailand. That's what we mean by our legitimate security interests..."

And, of course, the Lao formula and the Kampuchean situation belong to different categories. In Kampuchea, it was a clear and direct invasion of one country against another.

ASEAN's strategy perhaps should be to disregard Vietnam's attempt to lump Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea as one entity--Indochina, and to proceed, as it has been in Thailand's case--to develop closer relations with Vientiane.

The move appeared to be welcomed by most participants in the discussions although it was also pointed out that Bangkok, in trying to move a step closer to Laos, had embarked on the policy "not because we have detected a change of heart at the leadership level of that country. Obviously, Thailand can't afford to have tension on all fronts at the same time--and the policy could demonstrate to Vietnam that Thailand, after all, isn't hostile to everybody that is friendly to Hanoi."

In a more subtle way, though, developing closer relationship with Laos, from the Thai viewpoint, could be the result of a convergence of interest between Thailand and Laos, ironically though it may sound.

"Apparently, Laos is very concerned about China. Certainly we don't want Chinese domination there either. Paradoxically enough, there is, on this score, a convergence of interests between Thailand and Laos," it was explained, with the speaker adding quickly: "But of course, we have no illusions about the Lao leadership's close affinity with Vietnam..."

If some participants in the discussion demonstrated uneasiness over the slow pace of progress in the search for a political solution to the Kampuchean problem, there was also the other side of the argument.

It was suggested that a new ASEAN mechanism, in the form of an ad hoc planning committee, should be set up to draw up a new "political framework" to take care of the so-called "division of labour" in the task among ASEAN members of probing China on the one side and Vietnam on the other (presumably, with some ASEAN countries probing Hanoi and others checking out China's reactions to the latest developments).

The proponent of this new idea, apparently submitted with that "sense of urgency," added that ASEAN simply can't sit still and wait. "We must take some initiatives. And I think we must develop this new general political framework within the next 6 months..."

He apparently had also been "probing" the Vietnamese reactions and is one of those advocating some new alternatives to the current "stalemate" instead of what he believes to be a "wait-and-see" attitude from some other ASEAN members.

"We have been building bridges (with Hanoi). But we haven't gone very far since we don't dare to make any concrete move without a firm political framework. Of course, we have to stick to the principles laid down by the International Conference on Kampuchea (ICK) but ASEAN must continue to seek new ways within that framework to reach a solution," he said.

But then, the counter-argument was: "Yes, perhaps, a stalemate has developed. But we aren't necessarily suffering from the stalemate. We have managed to get international support for the ASEAN's stand. We could stick to our principles. And we have put forward a principle and a viable solution to Vietnam. The last thing we want is to see the restoration of Chinese dominance in Kampuchea, certainly..."

There were strong denials during the discussions that Thailand was following China's line too closely. One speaker said that Thailand had in fact managed to persuade Beijing to the coalition proposal despite its earlier misgivings.

"China to Thailand is like the Soviet Union to Western Europe," another speaker said, adding, however, that convergence of interest between Thailand and China for the time being could not be taken as a long-term tieup in the mutual relationship.

It was also argued that since China is now preoccupied with its modernization programme, this would be the right time to seek its support for ASEAN's cause. Undoubtedly, Beijing would continue to be a threat, at least in the form of support for local insurgencies in the region.

"We know that the Chinese have been trying to open up a new supply line through the areas controlled by the Burmese Communist Party via the Shan State and through northwestern Thailand to the Thai communists. The link between China and the CPI remains, although, at a lower level," another speaker added.

He said that the CPT, at the same time, had relaxed its very rigid pro-Beijing stance to allow for more flexibility of its regional headquarters in the country. Although there have been only unconfirmed reports about the Vietnamese trying to set up training camps in Laos for certain groups of Thai leftists who had developed conflicts with the Chinese, the new Vietnamese link has yet to show any sign of success so far. The potentials of course can never be ruled out altogether in such a trend.

On the other front, Vietnam's relationship with the Soviet Union has yet to show any signs of a serious split despite reports of Moscow's "direct" role in both Kampuchea and Laos, particularly in aid projects and the training of new military divisions in Laos. Vietnam has no choice, so far, but to let that happen for the time being.

Although one participant suggested that Vietnam's reactions against Moscow in Kampuchea might have been obvious in the removal of Pen Sovan as the party boss instead of Heng Samrin.

The USSR has to pay a cost, certainly. But that cost remains manageable so far--and the key consideration in this venture is certainly the "potential benefits" the Soviets will gain in having access to such vital bases and ports as Da Nang, Camranh Bay in Vietnam and Kompong Som in Kampuchea--the first major port facilities Moscow has had in Southeast Asia to balance off the American Pacific naval presence.

But the other side of the contention is that Vietnam, being a staunchly nationalist country, may not want to be under the Soviet shadow for too long. If the Soviets try to get Vietnam out of the way in their relations with the Phnom Penh regime and Laos, Hanoi would have to react openly and perhaps in a hostile way one day.

But the Soviet-Vietnamese relationship, despite the term "proxy" used quite often to describe the link, could well be realistically described as more like a "business partnership" rather than a master-client state of affairs. Here again, as long as the interests converge, they would remain partners. As long as the joint venture pays dividends, the partners wouldn't allow conflicts to break into the open.

But whatever the predictions for the future, ASEAN must come to the realization that none of the superpowers genuinely wants to have the Kampuchean [problem] resolved--since it may be in their interests, for different reasons perhaps--to keep the de-stabilizing process on indefinitely.

From Washington's point of view, Kampuchea may represent another quagmire for the Soviets. For the Soviets, the access to the port and military facilities in Vietnam and Kampuchea as "staging areas" to counter the U.S. "rapid re-deployment force" is a net profit in its long-term investment. The Chinese, as is wellknown, can afford to let the conflict in Kampuchea continue for 5 to 10 years. The war of attrition is nothing new to China which is bent on "bleeding" Vietnam anyway. The sense of time in Beijing is certainly different from that in ASEAN. One speaker quoted Deng Xiaoping as having told Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew during one of their first meetings: "Let the Vietnamese embrace the Russians for 8 years--and they would realize how it is..."

ASEAN doesn't think in terms of 8 to 10 years in finding a solution, of course. Even Vietnam may not be able to buy that much time. But as one speaker in the discussions over the weekend summed it up:

"We are not seeking to persuade Vietnam that their perception of the so-called Chinese threat is simply wishful thinking. What we seek is to convince them that they could cope with the Chinese threat better by cooperating with ASEAN..."

Participants in the discussions might have found it ironic. Vietnam itself might find it incredibly frank, coming from some ASEAN officials. But the conference did hear a statement something to this effect: "We want a strong Vietnam to hold off China--a strong Vietnam that would be a responsible member of the Southeast Asian community, with a peaceful, constructive policy to work together with other South-east Asian countries as equal partners..."

That might not have brought the ZOPFAN (zone of peace, freedom and neutrality) idea any closer to reality. But it did bring the "differing perceptions" around the discussion table somewhat closer together.

PROSPECTS FOR EVENTUAL HMONG RESETTLEMENT VIEWED

BK240509 Bangkok POST in English 24 Jan 82 p 6

[Article by Udom Warotamasikkhadit]

[Excerpt] The Hmong people who are better known to the Thais as "Meo" prefer to be called Hmong because "Hmong" means "free people." Hmong history indicates that they emigrated from the southern part of China into Laos only within the last 200 years. The Hmong have traditionally been a proud and independent people. They believe in freedom and fraternity. They love their own people, follow the leader faithfully, and enjoy living in elevated areas. They are keen on farming and animal husbandry.

The Pathet Lao and Vietnamese communists hated the Hmong because they were faithful to the Americans. When the communists took over Laos on 4 December 1975, the Hmong began to flee into Thailand to seek asylum as refugees and many of them have been resettled in the United States, France, Brazil, Guiana, etc.

However, there are still many Hmong in Thailand: 31,077 in Ban Winai camp, Pak Chom District, Loei Province and another 18,712 scattered in other camps, totalling 49,789 persons. They do not wish to be resettled in the third countries but want to stay in Thailand. Because of the climate, culture, language, and living conditions in Thailand they prefer to remain in here as long as they can. Many Hmong also speak Lao and can understand Thai. Many Thai words have been adopted into the Hmong vocabulary.

The United States has always been willing to accept the Hmong as refugees because of their previous assistance and cooperation in fighting against the communists in Laos, but they resist moving out of Thailand for the following reasons:

1. Former General Van Pao has sent tapes of his voice telling the Hmong that he will try to come back to lead them against the Pathet Lao and has requested his Hmong compatriots to wait for him.
2. The rumours of the Hmong dying in their sleep in the United States, where medical investigation cannot reveal any cause, frightens them.
3. The reality of family separation when arriving in the United States also makes them reluctant to leave. It is a general custom and practice for a Hmong man

to have more than one wife and many children. American societies believe in monogamy and only accept the legal wife. The minor wives will be separated from her husband and be resettled somewhere else. It is hard for the Hmong to accept the monogamous concept.

4. The rumours of hardship in the United States make them think twice before moving out of the refugee camps. They know that they are not well educated and have heard that it is very difficult for the uneducated to find a decent job in the United States.

5. Rumours of starvation may hinder their decision. Some American host families do not know that the Hmong need rice for their main diet and only prepare them with plenty of bread which they do not like.

6. The American policy of resettlement is not suitable for the Hmong and not agreeable to the Hmong culture. The Americans want to assimilate them into the society as quick as possible. The refugees are resettled in small groups scattered in different municipal areas all over the country with host families or church sponsorships. The Hmong prefer to live in big groups under the leadership of a headman as in Laos. They thus try to contact their relatives and move away to where their relatives and friends are. The secondary migration activities antagonize and disappoint many American host families and some no longer wish to sponsor Hmong families.

While on loan from the Thai Government to direct the UNHCR English as a second language and cultural orientation programme with Pragmatics International, Inc., I had two opportunities to meet Vang Pao, once on 30 May 1981 in Santa Ana, California and again on 16-20 June 1981 during the first Hmong national conference at Concordia College, St Paul, Minnesota. I greatly admire his intelligence, his shrewdness, his understanding of Hmong problems, and his leadership among the Hmong people. During those meetings I presented the following ideas to him, although I am not sure whether he fully accepted them.

1. To leave the Hmong refugees in Thailand is to deprive the young Hmong's chance for good education. I know that the Hmong are intelligent and many of them are potential leaders like Vang Pao himself. It is not fair to leave them without opportunity for education.

2. If he wishes to return to Laos and lead troops to fight against the Pathet Lao, I do not believe that he would win. Political means must be considered and taken into account. Education would perhaps encourage the young Hmong to return to Laos as future political leaders.

3. Vang Pao feels that at present the Hmong in the United States face many serious problems in adapting themselves into the American environment and in seeking jobs. He reasons if more Hmong go to the United States, the problems will increase. I urged that the Hmong in the United States and Vang Pao should petition the United States Government to arrange for group resettlement for the Hmong on the farmlands rather than in the big cities so that they could grow rice and raise animals. I am certain that the mental health of the Hmong would improve if they were resettled in the countryside.

Vang Pao was doubtful that rice would grow in most parts of the United States because the summer period is short and the day is long. He was afraid that the rice yield would be poor if there was too much sunlight during the day. I suggested to him that paddy rice (used as Hmong food) and glutinous rice (used as Lao food) may perhaps be cultivated in the mid-West. The Thai Ministry of Agriculture has discovered that there are several breeds of non-photosensitive rice that can grow even when the day is longer than the night. These kinds of rice are ready for harvesting within 110 days. Pragmatics International, Inc. has been experimenting with rice plots in Jackson and Detroit, Michigan. He was very much interested in rice growing and was willing to consider moving the refugees from Thailand, if rice growing is shown to be successful.

4. I told Vang Pao that the Thai Government has adopted the repatriation policy for those who do not wish to resettle in the third countries, but he does not believe that the Thai Government would be so cruel as to send his people to be killed by the Pathet Lao communists.

The Thai Government wants very much to resettle Hmong in third countries but the rumours and the tape recordings of Vang Pao's voice have caused them to decide not to leave Thailand, although they have been selected and accepted by the third countries. The following are recommendations that the Thai Government could consider in trying to solve this delicate situation:

1. Show documentary films such as "The Hmong in the Bitterroot" concerning Hmong resettlement in the United States, "Free No More: The Ally America Forgot" concerning the Hmong's flight from Laos and the resettlement experience of several Hmong families in Montana and California; a video tape on "The New Americans" presenting the life of the Hmong in the United States, and slide/talk on "The Hmong: A Nation in Exile" presenting some background about the Hmong, why they became refugees, and how they were resettling in Montana. Seeing the films may help them to change their minds about resettlement.
2. Allow the Hmong who have already resettled in the United States to return to the refugee camps to talk to their people of the good experiences in the third countries in order to help dispel rumours.
3. Try to convince the Hmong refugees to resettle in the third countries, otherwise the repatriation policy will be enforced. The Thai Government must be firm on its policy.

Now the government of Suriname, a country situated in northern South America, is ready to accept refugees for resettlement. The United States Government has agreed with the government of Suriname and conferred with the UNHCR in Geneva on a feasibility study of Hmong resettlement in Suriname. If the Thai Government is to be sincere to its own people in the face of future economic and political problems, resettlement of the Hmong in Suriname must be encouraged and cooperation with the UNHCR in moving the Hmong out of Thailand is necessary.

USO: 4220/229

'ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL' BANNED

BK210643 Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 21 Jan 82 pp 1, 11

[Text] Suradet Dechakhup, director of a division in the prime minister's office, disclosed to MATUPHUM that on 11 January the police department submitted a report about an article concerning the monarchy which appeared in the ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL to his office. He said that the matter has been forwarded to an office concerned for publication as law in the ROYAL GAZETTE.

An official of the prime minister's office told MATUPHUM that a special issue of the ROYAL GAZETTE, Book No 99, section 1, dated 14 January, contains the following announcement:

The ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL, an English-language publication, has published an article construed to be in violation of the public safety and moral decency of the people. The Bangkok press officer, empowered by the Press Act of 1981, Item 9, bans the sale and distribution of the publication concerned and orders its confiscation as of the date of the publication in this ROYAL GAZETTE.

A police source disclosed that Police Chief Gen Suraphon Chunlaphram signed an order at the end of January [as published] banning the sale of the ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL. The police chief has also instructed the special branch and the immigration police to regard Michael Schmicker, writer of the article in question, as persona non grata.

The 23 December 1981 issue of the WALL STREET JOURNAL published an article entitled "Can Thailand's Monarchy Survive This Century?" by Michael Schmicker, a former UN official stationed in Thailand. Schmicker is currently based in Honolulu and writes on Southeast Asian affairs.

The ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL's distributor in Thailand is the (Indoprom) Company. Its circulation in Thailand is about 3,000 issues daily.

CSO: 4207/48

BANK CHIEF SEES SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN 1982

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 27 Nov 81 p 3

[Article: "There Will Be Serious Economic Problems Next Year. The [Price of] Agricultural Products Will Fall, the Cost of Living Will Soar and Business Will Falter"]

[Text] The governor of the Bank of Thailand (BoT) has pointed out that in 1982 Thailand will encounter several serious economic problems including a fall in the price of agricultural products, a trade deficit, a balance of payments problem, a mobilization of savings that is not in accord with the target, the problem of the people's cost of living, the adjustments made by businesses and financial problems.

Concerning the Thai economy in 1982, Mr Nukun Prachuapmoh, the governor of the Bank of Thailand, told a group of students in the Faculty of Commerce and Accountancy at Thammasat University that next year Thailand will encounter several economic problems stemming from the present situation. He also pointed out the way to solve the problems. The price of agricultural goods will fall because world production has increased greatly, and, therefore, it is expected that there will be great competition in world markets. Thus, the government will have to quickly find export markets. This is an immediate measure. As for long-term measures, the production system must be improved and production efficiency must be increased so that production is in accord with the demands of both domestic and foreign markets.

As for the balance of trade and balance of payments problems next year, the governor of the BoT stated that, since earnings from exports will not increase, the government should quickly encourage the private sector to have advance exports.

Mr Nukun further stated that concerning mobilizing domestic savings in order to relax the tight situation in relying on foreign sources of capital, the BoT feels that this is an extremely important measure. However, the mobilization of savings during the past period did not hit the targets since the purchasing power of the people fell, which was due to the fact that the cost of living increased. And the fact that the government recently adjusted the price of rice will probably affect the price of goods and the cost of living. In

addition to the government having a financial policy that will provide help to the producers, the producers must adjust themselves to the changed situation in the world. Also, there may be fluctuations next year. This is because Thailand is a small country with an open economic system, with the result that it is affected easily.

Mr Nukun stated that, concerning the 1982 budget, the government has made a budget in which expenditures exceed receipts by 21 billion baht. There may be problems if tax revenues are lower than those targeted during a period of economic stagnation like that experienced by the government in fiscal 1981. Thus, the government should exercise caution concerning budgetary expenditures, otherwise serious problems may arise.

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CSO: 4207/40

EMPLOYMENT PICTURE WORSENS, FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT VIEWED

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 9 Dec 81 p 6

[Article by Supharjai Manatphaibun: "The Labor Situation"]

[Text] Concerning the labor situation in 1981, nothing unusual has taken place. The number of strikes increased slightly from 21 in 1980 to approximately 40 in 1981. Some of the strikes or lockouts lasted a long time.

Because compulsory arbitration of labor disputes was lifted on 27 January 1981, in a depressed business situation, many employers have not been able to agree to the demands of the employees. Lockouts lasting many days have occurred. No serious attempt to solve the unemployment problem will be made. And it appears that the situation which worsened during the last half of 1981 will become even worse during the first half of 1982.

The most recent change in the minimum wage, which occurred on 1 October 1981, represents only a small increase, that is, 12.9 percent, for Bangkok and the important surrounding provinces. The minimum wage in effect in Bangkok was also put into effect in seven other provinces and this has had a rather serious effect on some labor intensive industries, particularly the gunny bag factory in Nakhon Pathasima Province that has also experienced other problems and the small industrial plants in Chiang Mai and Chonburi provinces.

Furthermore, this has also given rise to the belief that the same minimum wage in effect in Bangkok will be put into effect in other places, that is, in Chumpuri, Rayong, Ratchaburi, Ayuthaya, Songkhla, Khon Kaen, Nakhon Si Thammaraj and so on. This has caused people who were considering investing here to hesitate.

Concerning labor administration, no important changes have been made in the laws. The Director-General of the Labor Department had his term of office extended after having served in this position for 4 years.

The social security preparation committee has finished drafting a social security program, which is under consideration by the cabinet. The Apprentice Law and the Seamen's Law have not passed the first step in the Ministry of Interior and there is still no Ministry of Labor.

The labor union movement is still splintered and the development of an organization has not achieved the success it should have.

The phenomena that have appeared in the second half of 1981 include:

Lockouts: The employers have ordered lockouts since the bargaining failed. Several times, there have been lockouts without any bargaining and each time the lockouts have lasted for a long time.

Layoffs: There have been many layoffs and this has spread everywhere, both in businesses with labor problems and in businesses in general which have been affeted by other economic problems. This has led to businesses not hiring new workers and to laying off many workers. Usually, compensation is paid in accord with the law. But besides wage disputes, there have been other problems of people trying to take advantage of others in calculating compensation, and, therefore, several hundred cases have been appealed to the Labor Court.

The employment crisis: The domestic employment crisis is both a reflection of and a warning about the economic situation both in 1981 and in the near future. The employment situation, which began to worsen during the first half of 1981, has gotten much worse since the devaluation of the baht, even though the devaluation of the baht was necessary and did not have a direct effect on the employment situation.

Many industrial plants have encountered problems of capital concerning interest rates, fuel oil and taxes and even problems because of the reduced purchasing power of the people. Because of repeatedly encountering problems of capital for machinery and other items imported from abroad, which have increased in price because of the devaluation of the baht, and the foreign debt situation, they have encountered serious problems. The first thing they did was to quit hiring new workers. They then tried to induce workers to quit and then finally laid off workers, paying them a high rate of compensation in accord with the law.

Layoffs of large numbers of workers at one time have occurred all during the last 6 months of 1981. The various companies involved have paid compensation equal to 6 months, 3 months and 1 month's salary depending on the time worked. This shows that businessmen expect business to get worse or, at best, that there will be no recovery in 1982 even though interest rates may decline somewhat. These declining interest rates may help the stock market to recover by generating short-term profit speculation rather than encouraging investments in the present political and bureaucratic situation.

Employment has fallen and the situation will get worse because Thailand's important agricultural products have encountered foreign market problems. This has affected the purchasing power of most of the people and it will adversely affect the bargaining power of the employees and labor unions.

Demands in excess of what the employers can meet have been refused again and again and it has reached the point where the employers have announced lockouts and business closings, with workers laid off and paid compensation.

Instead of improving labor relations and management in the company so that there is greater efficiency, many employers have instead chosen to invest in new machinery that can replace laborers. If this trend continues, the employment situation will become even worse.

Industries that produce automobile and motorcycle parts, electrical and household appliances, air conditioners, soft drinks and glasses have continually reduced their work force during 1981. The government must give attention [to finding] foreign markets for cloth, textile goods, leather goods, household goods, glazed tiles and so on so that employment and the use of labor increases.

However, the slowdown in investments will have an effect on labor employment. This may result from another important factor, which is that, after improving the economic structure in accord with the Fifth Development Plan, which may involve changes in import tax rates for some types of goods, investors will probably wait to see what the final decisions are before expanding their activities.

The expansion of livestock and poultry raising, including modern dairy and agricultural activities, will help provide many new jobs. As for the large projects that the government has talked about in conjunction with the use of natural gas, few of these projects will generate much employment directly and it will be a long time before results will be achieved. People should not expect that these projects will help reduce unemployment.

The employment of Thai laborers abroad:

There will probably be a continued demand for Thai laborers abroad, even though there is no longer any demand in Iran or Iraq, which are in a state of war. But there are other countries which are providing new sources of jobs for Thai laborers. Besides Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar, these include Jordan, Syria, the United Arab Emirates, Libya and Israel, for example. Other countries outside the Middle East, such as Singapore, also provide jobs for approximately 10,000 Thais.

Some people estimate that there are presently more than 100,000 Thai laborers working in these countries. This has helped to lighten the unemployment crisis in the country and brought much foreign currency into Thailand, even though it has led to a shortage of some types of skilled labor in the country.

The problems that are involved in sending Thais abroad to work and that have not yet been solved include:

1. Those who provide jobs cut prices, which causes Thais to receive lower wages than they should.
2. Companies send laborers abroad without testing them or guaranteeing skill levels and this has led to a loss of reputation and lower wages.

3. Fraud on the part of the procurement people has led to work applicants losing large sums of money. They have gone to work for short periods and have not been able to earn enough to pay off the debts incurred.

4. There have been conflicts because of the different methods used by the Labor Department and the labor procurement offices. For example, the labor procurement offices have sought 2-3 year work contracts, which are beneficial for the workers. The Labor Department has stressed making 1 year contracts and in some cases this has been bad for both the workers and the employers. There was also the case of workers travelling to Singapore to work. The Labor Department arranged for them to fly there.

However, during the last 6 months of 1981, the Labor Department has monitored the employment advertisements and told people which labor procurement offices that have issued advertisements have not received permission to do this.

Because of the money they have sent home, the 100,000 Thais working abroad have played a part in relieving the unemployment crisis by not having hundreds of thousands of people become a social problem. If the government carries on things seriously and continuously helps private Thai [companies] compete in submitting bids for construction jobs abroad, many more sources of jobs may be created. This will greatly help reduce unemployment and poverty in the rural areas and help solve the immediate problems instead of just trying to persuade [people] to see a light in another 5 years.

Developing the employers' and employees' associations:

Concerning labor unions, the employees have become aroused and have formed more labor unions. As of November 1981, there were approximately 330 labor unions. About 120 of the labor unions are members of the Employees' Council of the Labor Council of Thailand. However, this interest in forming labor unions has involved only quantity; the original structure of the various labor unions and labor federations has not been improved. And even the Labor Council needs to be more efficient so that, as is hoped, it can protect the interests of the laborers both in and outside the labor union movement.

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CSO: 4207/40

COST OF LIVING ROSE 12.7 PERCENT IN 1981

BK161428 Bangkok WORLD in English 16 Jan 82 p 1

[Text] The cost of living rose 12.7 percent nationwide last year, according to the records of the Business Economics Department. Bangkok recorded a slightly higher rise--13.4 percent--than the country as a whole, the records show.

The figures are based on the average monthly consumer price index figures for the year compared with the average for 1980. They show a slowdown in the inflationary rate which rose 19.7 percent nationwide, and 19.9 percent in Bangkok, in 1980.

Last year's increases were caused by higher prices for oil, increases in electricity rates, transportation charges and in the minimum wage as well as a rise in price of some kinds of commodities at the beginning of the year.

The consumer price index nationwide for 1981 was 172.1, compared with 152.7 for 1980. The index is based on a figure of 100 for 1976. In Bangkok the figure for 1981 was 176.8 and for 1980 155.9.

The December figures were nationwide 178.6 and Bangkok 183.9.

The biggest rise last year was in transportation which climbed 28.4 percent over 1980. Public transportation, a subcategory, rose 45.5 percent.

Electricity, fuel and tapwater costs rose 19.9 percent for the year.

Other items--food and beverages, cloth and clothing, housing and furnishings, health and personal care, recreation and education, and tobacco and alcoholic drinks--rose an average of 10.5 percent.

The consumer price index for Bangkok rose 1.0 percent for the month of December.

CSO: 4220/227

BRIEFS

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON POLAND--Many people have expressed interest in the Thai Government's position toward the political crisis in Poland. Regarding this issue, Foreign Ministry spokesman Chet Sucharitkun has stated that Thailand wishes to see the problems in Poland resolved peacefully by the Polish people themselves and it disagrees strongly with interference by any country in the issue as the issue is an internal affair of Poland. [Text] [BK081439 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 8 Jan 82]

YEN BONDS ISSUED BY EGAT--The cabinet met today at Government House. It was chaired by Prime Minister Gen Prem Tinsulanon. Among topics discussed at the meeting were the issuance of bonds in yen by the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand [EGAT] for sale in Japanese financial markets. The cabinet approved the Finance Ministry's proposal for EGAT to issue bonds in yen worth 10 billion baht for sale in Japanese financial markets. The bonds will mature in no less than 12 years with 9.5 percent interest per annum. The Finance Ministry will act as the guarantor for the bonds on behalf of the Kingdom of Thailand. The proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used for increasing EGAT's production capacity as approved by the cabinet in February 1981. The cabinet agreed with the Finance Ministry's recommendation that current national monetary situation still needs foreign capital and in order to promote additional borrowing of foreign capital for investment, it is deemed appropriate to waive income tax on interest on foreign loans for a period of 1 additional year for loans recorded from 1 January to 31 December 1982. [Excerpts] [BK060715 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 5 Jan 82]

FLOOD DAMAGE IN SOUTH--Director General of the local Administration Department Chalong Kanlayanamit, in his capacity as secretary and member of the committee to aid flood victims and reconstruct flood-hit areas in southern provinces, has reported on the losses caused by flooding in eight provinces in the south, namely, Phatthalung, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Songkhla, Surat Thani, Narathiwat, Yala, Pattani and Trang, since last November. The damage covered 71 districts. About 39,000 families, or over 260,000 people, were affected. More than 720,000 rai of farmland was damaged. Floods also destroyed public utilities including roads, bridges, and irrigation canals as well as a large number of official buildings. Overall damages were estimated at about 200 million baht. The committee to aid flood victims and reconstruct flood-hit areas in southern provinces and concerned government agencies have provided food and other necessary supplies as well as construction materials to the people. The committee itself has been allocated a budget of 100 million baht

from the central fund for providing relief supplies and carrying out reconstruction operations in the flood-hit areas. [Excerpt] [BK141435 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 14 Jan 82]

1981 RICE EXPORT--According to the Board of Trade, Thailand exported 3.07 million tons of rice worth 26 billion baht in 1981. Export by the private sector accounted for some 2.05 million tons. The country's rice export target for 1981 was originally set at 2.8 million tons. The 1981 export figure was the highest ever recorded by Thailand. [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 5 Jan 82]

1981 TAPIOCA EXPORT--According to the Foreign Trade Department, in 1981 Thailand exported a total of 6.67 million tons of tapioca worth 16.858 billion baht. The 1981 export is 1.91 million tons more than the amount exported in 1980, while the export value is increased by 2.238 billion baht over the 1980 value. The 6.67 million tons of tapioca included 6.35 million tons of tapioca pellets and some 300,000 tons of tapioca flour. [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 6 Jan 82]

AMBASSADORS DESIGNATE--On 24 December His Majesty the king received the following Thai ambassadors designate before their departure for their countries of assignment: Witthaya Wetchachiwa, Thai ambassador designate to Canada; Prachit Rotchanaphruk, Thai ambassador designate to the Philippines; and Anat Suwanwihok, Thai ambassador to Sri Lanka. [BK301021 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 24 Dec 81]

1982 RICE EXPORT TARGET--According to the Business Economics Department, Thailand's rice export target for 1982 is 3.5 million tons, worth approximately 29.4 billion bhat. The target tonnage is about 16.7 percent higher than the 1981 figure, while the 1982 target value is about 12.6 percent higher than the 1981 value. Among the customers, Iran is expected to buy 450,000 tons, the USSR 350,000, Indonesia 315,000 tons and Senegal 250,000 tons. [Bahgkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 25 Dec 81]

TAPIOCA EXPORT FIGURES--Commerce Minister Chuan Likphai has disclosed that from 1 January to 17 December, Thailand exported about 6.2 million tons of tapioca products worth 15,789 million baht. [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 19 Dec 81]

NATURAL GAS ROYALTIES--The Mineral Resources Department has announced that the Union Oil and SEAPEC companies, which have received concession to explore natural gas in the Gulf of Thailand, dug up 7,691 million cubic feet of natural gas and about 331,379 barrels of liquid gas between August and November. Of the total amount, 6,898.94 million cubic feet of natural gas worth 338,337 million baht and 163,659 barrels of liquid gas worth about 124.476 million baht were sold to the Petroleum Authority of Thailand. The government collected 57.864 million baht royalties from the two companies. [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 19 Dec 81]

ITALIAN HOSPITAL TO THAIS--Dr (Bertorato Sido), director of the Italian hospital in Ta Phraya District, disclosed that Italy will stop giving medical assistance to the Kampuchean wounded from the war in Kampuchea and the Thai people along the Thai border by the end of this year. He said that the Italian Government built a 60-bed hospital with equipment worth about 69 million baht at the border in April 1980. The hospital has five doctors specialized in surgery and obstetrics

and costs 230,000 baht per month to operate. The officials and nurses are also working at the hospital. He said the reason for the closure of this hospital was the improvement of the border situation and the decline of the number of patients. Meanwhile, Dr Adirek Na Thalang, director of the Thai Red Cross Disaster Relief Division, said that after the withdrawal of the Italian personnel, the hospital will become the property of the Thai Public Health Ministry. He anticipated that the Italian hospital would operate under the supervision of Ta Phraya Hospital for treatment of Kampuchean people. [Text] [BK130934 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 11 Jan 82]

ASEAN MINISTERS SIGN AGREEMENT--ASEAN economic ministers in their 12th ministerial meeting today signed the agreement on Thailand's soda ash joint ASEAN industrial project. The project, estimated to cost \$370 million, will start in 1986. The agreement was signed in Kuala Lumpur. Production capacity was expected to be about 400,000 tons annually with 60 percent equity to the host country, 13 percent to Indonesia, 13 percent to Malaysia, 13 percent to the Philippines and 1 percent to Singapore. [Text] [BK161214 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 16 Jan 82]

CORRUPTION AT KHAO I-DANG--Corruption is rife at the Kaho I-Dang holding centre for displaced Kampuchians, and about 60 percent of officials there are involved, Mr Rangsi Saengarun, deputy director of the centre, said yesterday. He said many officials took bribes from Kampuchians to allow them to leave the centre to trade in black markets. Mr Rangsi also expressed grave concern at the existence of brothels and gambling dens at the centre. He said the Kampuchians were split among themselves and had set up illegal courts with people who had no money being punished but some with money bribing the judges. Mr Rangsi said the centre was divided into sections for administrative purposes. He said he expected the problems to ease with the transfer of some officials. There are about 43,000 Kampuchians at the centre now, but the number changes daily as some return to Kampuchea while others arrive from there, Mr Rangsi said. [Text] [BK111141 Bangkok WORLD in English 11 Jan 82 p 1]

APPLICATION FOR GATT MEMBERSHIP--The cabinet has given the green light for Thailand to apply for membership to the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade, according to the director general of the Business Economics Department. The cabinet made the decision during the weekly session on Tuesday [22 December]. In applying for membership, the Commerce Ministry will send the application form to the organization headquarters in Geneva through the Foreign Affairs Ministry soon. [Excerpt] [BK250903 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 24 Dec 81]

MONETARY RESERVES INCREASE--Thailand's reserves in both bullion and foreign currencies at the end of November rose to \$3,007 million, an increase of about \$130 million from the amount of \$2,876.3 million at the end of October. The increase of national reserves in November is mainly due to the Finance Ministry's borrowing of about \$100 million from the IMF. [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 26 Dec 81]

SOVIET TAPIOCA DEAL--The deputy minister of agriculture and cooperatives will ask the economic ministers at their meeting next week to consider a proposal on the sale of Thai tapioca roots to the Soviet Union in exchange for fertilizers. The Soviet Union has offered to exchange a specified volume of fertilizers for 1 million tons of Thai tapioca roots. If the deal is satisfactorily concluded, the Soviet Union will buy 4.5 million tons of Thai tapioca on a 5-year contract. If the economic ministers approve this deal in their meeting on 18 January, the government is expected to conclude a formal agreement with the Soviet Union this month. Thailand and the Soviet Union signed an agreement last month on the exchange of some 200,000 tons of Thai maize for 100,000 tons of Russian fertilizers. [Text] [BK131423 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 13 Jan 82]

BARTER TRADE WITH ROMANIA--Thailand will ship 200,000 tons of corn to Romania in exchange for more than 100,000 tons of chemical fertilizer. This is in accordance with the contract signed by the two countries in Bangkok on 25 December. Under the contract, shipment of the two products will be made within 180 days. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 27 Dec 81]

ADB GRANTS LOAN--Thailand will soon be able to implement its medium-scale irrigation package project in the north, central and eastern regions. This is because the Asian Development Bank has approved loans totaling 920 million baht to support the project which will benefit about 3,200 farmer families. [BK231449 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 20 Dec 81]

1981 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE--Thailand received foreign assistance worth 3.9 billion baht during the 1981 fiscal year. According to the director general of the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation, the biggest part of the assistance came from the Colombo plan countries, which donated a total of 1.9 billion baht to development projects in Thailand. Following in the list were the European community, the United Nations and the United States. The assistance that European countries provided to Thailand last year was 300 million baht more than the estimate, as the community has increased its aid to agricultural development. These aids were provided free in the forms of economic and technical assistance, which included money, equipment, scholarship and experts. [BK060923 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 4 Jan 82]

HOUSE COMMITTEE'S LETTER ON POLAND--The Thai House Foreign Affairs Committee has submitted a letter to the Polish Embassy in Bangkok. The letter says that Thailand hopes that foreign troops will not intervene in Poland. Committee Chairman Lt Gen Chan Angsuchot said that the letter also urges the restoration of peace and order in Poland through legal and humanitarian means acceptable to the international community. The Polish Embassy in Bangkok has seen three peaceful demonstrations since a state of emergency was declared in that country on 13 December 1981. [Text] [BK090734 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 9 Jan 82]

ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS ROUNDED UP--Trat--Provincial officials Thursday rounded up about 800 Mons, Karens and Burmese for illegally entering the country, then slipping into Kampuchea to dig for precious gems. The illegal immigrants, who were believed to have entered the country at Kanchanaburi Province, will be taken aboard 13 trucks to Kamchanaburi today and then sent across the border into Burma

at the Three Pagoda pass. Each will be provided with food, water and other necessities to sustain them for a few days. The forced repatriation will be jointly supervised by the Kanchanaburi provincial authorities, Ninth Army Division, Zone 7 border patrol police, local Internal Security Operations Command Office and National Security Command. The order, which was issued by the Interior Ministry yesterday, and received in Kanchanaburi, confirmed that the immigrants must be pushed out. The cost of the repatriation is estimated to be about 60,000 baht. [Text]
[BK090511 Bangkok POST in English 9 Jan 82 p 1]

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